
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Social Services
Quarterly Report
Fiscal Year 2004
4th Quarter

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December 2004



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OBSERVATIONS

(Regional and Statewide)

Consumer and Case Counts

- At the end of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, DSS had 23,173 open cases (1,780 adoption cases and 21,393 clinical cases). A total of 75,377 consumers (35,068 adults and 40,309 children) were being served. Case counts ranged from 3,276 in the Central Region to 4,749 in the Southeastern Region. **(Table 1)**
- Over the past four quarters, there was little overall change in the DSS client population (statewide). The typical pattern is a drop in consumers in the summer quarter (Q1) followed by a gradual rise in consumers during the school quarters (Q2-Q4). These quarterly fluctuations reflect the rise and fall of child abuse and neglect reports and investigations (especially, supported investigations) throughout the year. **(Figs. 1 and 2 on page 5, Fig. 21 on page 53)**

Consumers in Placement

- There were 10,830 individuals in placement on the last day of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004. Included in this count are 9,829 children (less than 18 years old) and 1,001 young adults (18 to 23 years old). **(Table 1)**
- The placement population was distributed across DSS service regions as follows: 21% in the Western Region, 20% in the Southeastern Region, 17% in the Northeastern Region, 14% in the Central Region, 12% in the Metro Region, and 12% in the Boston Region. **(Table 1)**
- Statewide, 24% (9,829) of all children (less than 18 years old) with open cases were in placement. The regional statistics for children in placement as a proportion of all children receiving services were: 28% in the West, 25% in the Southeast, 23% in the Northeast, 23% in Central, 22% in Metro, and 20% in Boston. **(Table 2)**
- Of all children less than 18 years old receiving services, the Pittsfield, Springfield, Holyoke, Fall River, and Framingham Area Offices had the highest proportions in placement. The lowest proportions of children in placement were found at the Malden, Lawrence, Park Street, Dimock Street, Harbor, and Arlington Area Offices. **(Table 2)**
- Quarterly fluctuations in the number of children in placement resulted in little, if any, overall change. **(Fig. 3)**

- From the 1st to the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, there was a 6% increase in the population of children not in placement¹ (with an open case status)—28,705 to 30,480 children. **(Fig. 4)**

Age, Sex, Race, and Preferred Language of Consumers

- On the last day of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, the consumer population included 40,309 (53%) children less than 18 years old and 35,068 (47%) adults 18 years or older. Fifty-three percent of all consumers were identified as female, 46% as male, and 1% were unspecified as of the run-date. Thirty-nine percent (15,748) of all children were adolescents (12 to 17 years old). **(Table 1, Fig. 5)**
- The number of female children in the DSS caseload was approximately equal to the number of male children. In contrast, the ratio of female to male adults was 1.5:1. **(Fig. 5)**
- The statewide caseload was comprised of 56% White, 16% Black, 2% Asian, and less than 1% Native American consumers. Race was “Unspecified” for 23% of the consumers. Of the total consumer population, 22% (16,794 consumers) were of Hispanic origin. Regionally, the highest proportions of Hispanic consumers were in the West and Northeast. **(Tables 3A and 3B, Figs. 6A, 6B, 6C, and 6D)**
- The Boston Region's caseload was comprised of 48% Black and 23% White consumers (4,968 and 2,442 consumers, respectively). Asians were most prominent in the Northeast--7% of the caseload (1,003 consumers, mainly Cambodian). **(Table 3A, Figs. 6A and 6B)**
- The Northeastern, Western, and Boston Regions had the highest proportions (and numbers) of Spanish-speaking consumers, 9% (1,175 consumers), 8% (1,128), and 8% (844), respectively. Khmer (Cambodian) was the preferred language of 465 DSS consumers (1%). Khmer-speaking consumers were mainly concentrated in the Northeast. Other languages and their regions of highest prevalence were Portuguese (Southeast and Metro), Haitian Creole (Metro and Boston), Cape Verdean Creole (Southeast and Boston), Vietnamese (Boston and Central), and Lao (Northeast). **(Table 4)**

¹ Children are less than 18 years old.

- Consumers with the primary languages Khmer Cambodian and Haitian Creole showed the greatest increase from 1987 to 2004 (See table below). Portuguese-, Chinese-, and Cape Verdean Creole-speaking consumers displayed the largest declines over this period.

STATEWIDE

Primary Language	Consumers July 1987 No.	Consumers June 2004 No.	Change %
English/Unspecified*	60,784	67,848	12%
Spanish	3,664	4,287	17%
Khmer Cambodian	253	465	84%
Portuguese	530	268	-49%
Haitian Creole	175	233	33%
Vietnamese	146	144	-1%
Cape Verdean Creole	174	125	-28%
Chinese	71	49	-31%
American Sign Language	47	28	-40%
Lao	30	12	-60%
Other	213	1,918	800%
Total	66,087	75,377	14%

* When a primary language was unspecified, it was presumed to be English.

TABLE 1. CASE AND CONSUMER COUNTS BY LOCATION AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

		DSS Geographic Region							Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾ Other ⁽²⁾		Total
		West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston				
Case Counts:											
Adoption		388	225	241	210	359	205	151	1		1,780
Clinical		3,822	3,051	3,832	3,187	4,390	3,072	8	31		21,393
Total		4,210	3,276	4,073	3,397	4,749	3,277	159	32		23,173
Consumer Counts:											
Adults: ⁽³⁾											
In Placement: ⁽⁴⁾	Foster/Residential Care ⁽⁵⁾	158	98	176	162	184	167	---	25		970
	Other ⁽⁶⁾	6	3	5	1	7	9	---	---		31
	Total in Placement	164	101	181	163	191	176	---	25		1,001
	Not in Placement	6,017	5,074	5,958	5,168	7,311	4,536	---	3		34,067
Total Adults		6,181	5,175	6,139	5,331	7,502	4,712	---	28		35,068
Children:											
In Placement: ⁽⁴⁾	Foster/Residential Care ⁽⁵⁾	1,982	1,371	1,600	1,141	1,959	1,048	263	6		9,370
	Other ⁽⁶⁾	34	26	54	18	32	27	1	---		192
	On the Run	93	24	45	18	34	53	---	---		267
	Total in Placement	2,109	1,421	1,699	1,177	2,025	1,128	264	6		9,829
Not in Placement		5,507	4,652	5,670	4,115	5,949	4,582	4	1		30,480
Total Children		7,616	6,073	7,369	5,292	7,974	5,710	268	7		40,309
Total		13,797	11,248	13,508	10,623	15,476	10,422	268	35		75,377

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Adults are consumers 18 years or older.

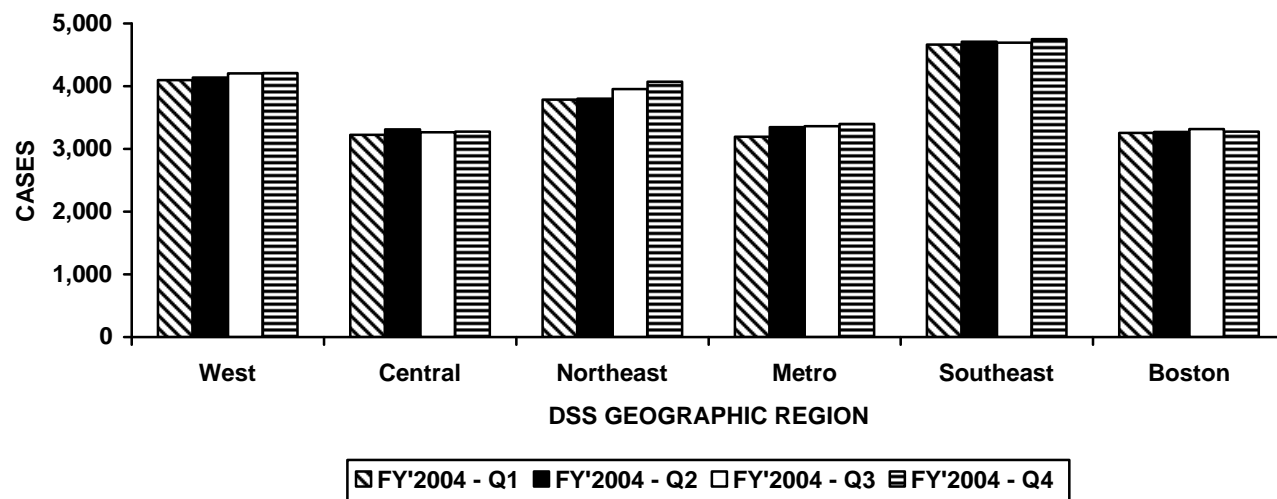
⁽⁴⁾ Children and young adults in the care/custody of DSS. "Adults" in Foster/Residential Care are being transitioned to the Departments of Mental Health (DMH) and Mental Retardation (DMR) or are supported by DSS until graduation from a full-time school or vocational training program (through age 23 for a Bachelor's Degree).

⁽⁵⁾ See Tables 5A, 5B, and 5C for a breakdown by type of placement.

⁽⁶⁾ "Other" includes non-referral locations such as hospitals and other state agencies.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

**FIGURE 1. CASE COUNT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 2. CONSUMER COUNT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**

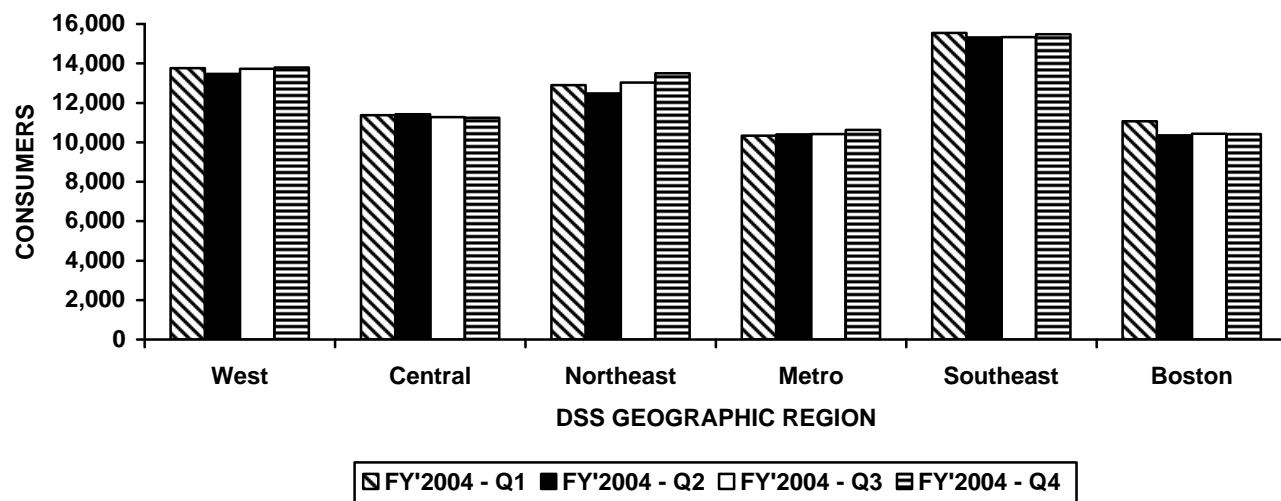


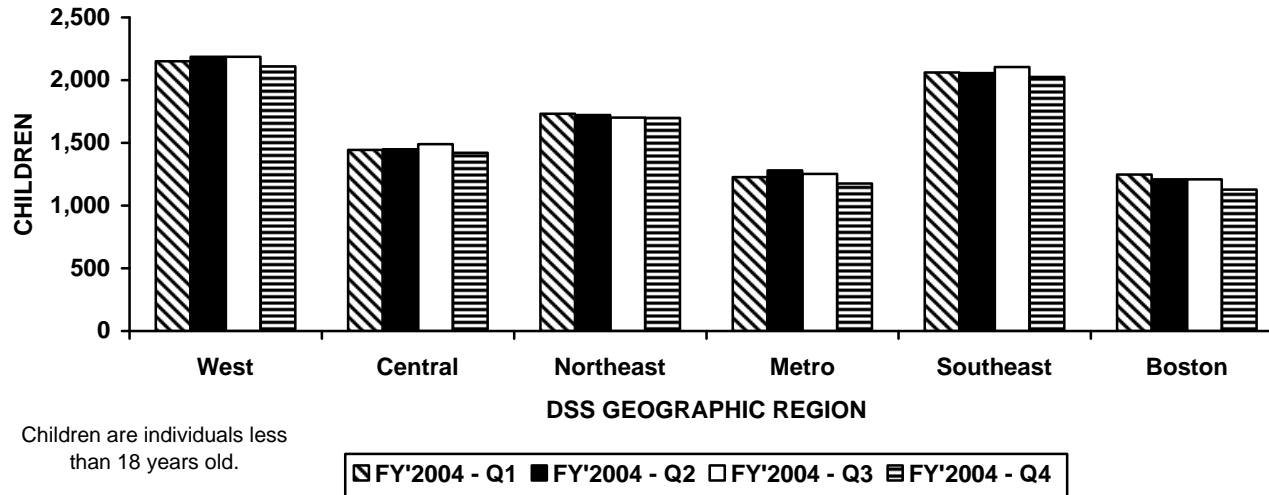
TABLE 2. CHILD⁽¹⁾ CASELOAD BY DSS AREA OFFICE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS Region/Area	Not in Placement	In Placement	Total Child Caseload	% in Placement
Pittsfield	694	340	1,034	33%
Greenfield	815	312	1,127	28%
Holyoke	1,244	520	1,764	29%
Robert Van Wart Center	1,405	383	1,788	21%
Springfield	1,341	550	1,891	29%
Contracted Agencies	8	4	12	33%
Western	5,507	2,109	7,616	28%
North Central	1,715	427	2,142	20%
South Central	1,276	424	1,700	25%
Worcester	1,655	570	2,225	26%
Contracted Agencies	6	---	6	---
Central	4,652	1,421	6,073	23%
Lowell	1,228	466	1,694	28%
Lawrence	1,533	332	1,865	18%
Cape Ann	864	288	1,152	25%
Haverhill	901	251	1,152	22%
Lynn	1,138	358	1,496	24%
Contracted Agencies	6	4	10	40%
Northeast	5,670	1,699	7,369	23%
Malden	1,135	224	1,359	16%
Framingham	611	247	858	29%
Cambridge	743	229	972	24%
Arlington	815	187	1,002	19%
Coastal	787	285	1,072	27%
Contracted Agencies	24	5	29	17%
Metro	4,115	1,177	5,292	22%
Attleboro	737	260	997	26%
Brockton	1,186	354	1,540	23%
New Bedford	1,309	459	1,768	26%
Fall River	1,136	473	1,609	29%
Plymouth	790	235	1,025	23%
Cape Cod	780	240	1,020	24%
Contracted Agencies	11	4	15	27%
Southeast	5,949	2,025	7,974	25%
Hyde Park	875	287	1,162	25%
Dimock Street	1,146	262	1,408	19%
Park Street	1,421	305	1,726	18%
Harbor	1,140	272	1,412	19%
Contracted Agencies	---	2	2	100%
Boston	4,582	1,128	5,710	20%
Adoption Contracts	4	264	268	99%
Other ⁽²⁾	1	6	7	86%
Total	30,480	9,829	40,309	24%

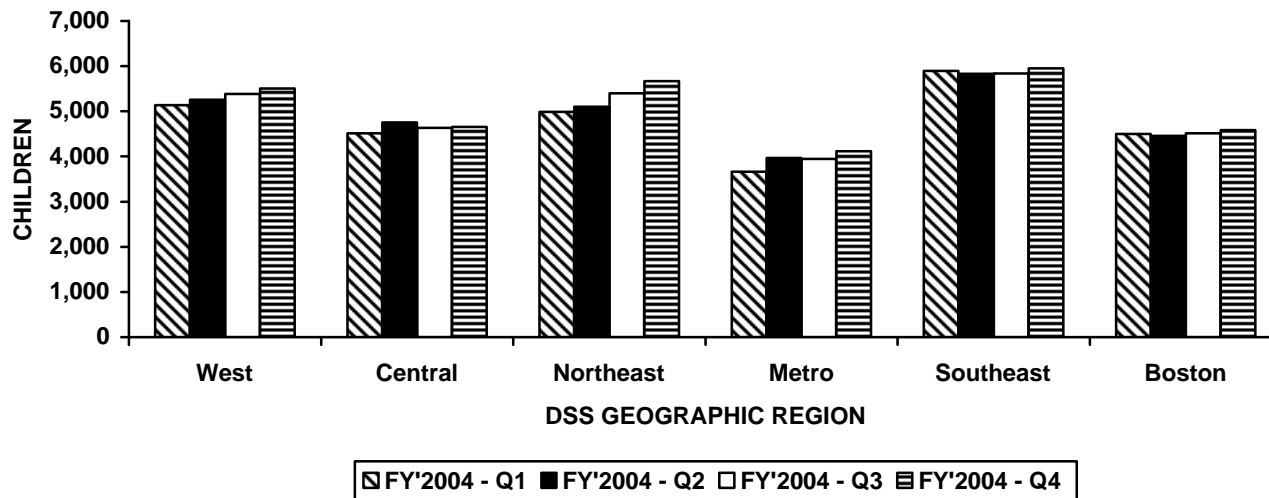
⁽¹⁾ Children are less than 18 years old.⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

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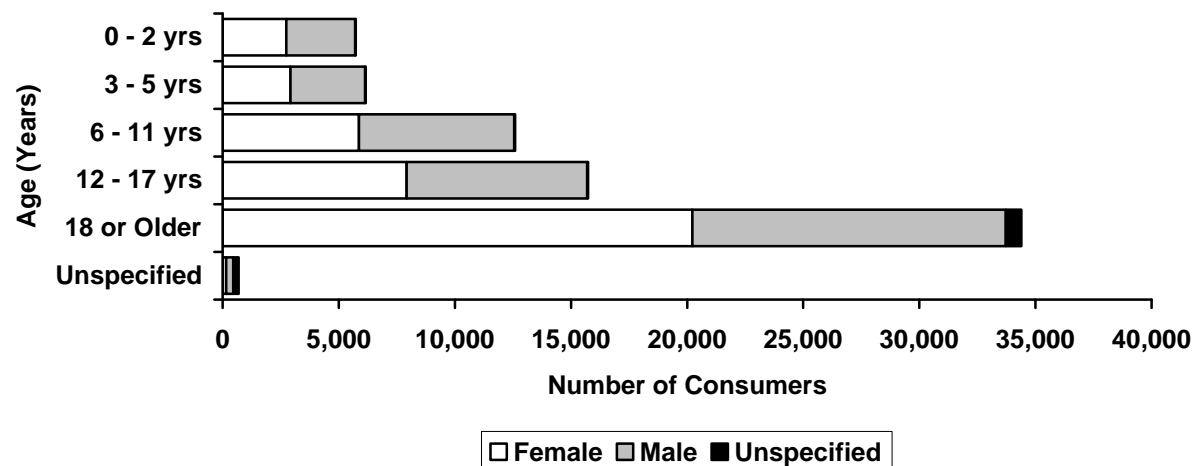
**FIGURE 3. CHILDREN IN PLACEMENT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 4. CHILDREN NOT IN PLACEMENT BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 5. AGE AND SEX OF CONSUMERS: STATEWIDE
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



Age (Yrs)	Sex			Total
	Female	Male	Unspecified ⁽¹⁾	
0 - 2	2,747	2,970	35	5,752
3 - 5	2,926	3,218	28	6,172
6 - 11	5,873	6,689	41	12,603
12 - 17	7,926	7,778	44	15,748
18 or older	20,224	13,512	665	34,401
Unspecified ⁽¹⁾	152	312	237	701
Total	39,848	34,479	1,050	75,377

⁽¹⁾ Unspecified includes 667 adults and 34 children whose ages were unknown and 1,050 consumers whose gender was not specified as of the run date.

TABLE 3A. RACE OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Race	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption		Other ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽¹⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	7,639	55%	7,513	67%	7,593	56%	6,836	64%	9,884	64%	2,442	23%	138	51%	2	6%	42,047	56%
Black	1,606	12%	978	9%	978	7%	1,611	15%	2,155	14%	4,968	48%	75	28%	29	83%	12,400	16%
Asian	49	*	169	2%	1,003	7%	225	2%	152	1%	237	2%	6	2%	---	---	1,841	2%
Native American	33	*	18	*	18	*	9	*	47	*	20	*	2	1%	---	---	147	*
Other ⁽³⁾	25	*	---	---	8	*	6	*	12	*	9	*	1	*	---	---	61	*
Multi-Racial	279	2%	214	2%	308	2%	190	2%	314	2%	147	1%	14	5%	---	---	1,466	2%
Unspecified	4,166	30%	2,356	21%	3,600	27%	1,746	16%	2,912	19%	2,599	25%	32	12%	4	11%	17,415	23%
Total	13,797	100%	11,248	100%	13,508	100%	10,623	100%	15,476	100%	10,422	100%	268	100%	35	100%	75,377	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.

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TABLE 3B. HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Origin ⁽¹⁾	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption		Other ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽²⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Hispanic/Latino	4,222	31%	2,548	23%	4,201	31%	1,310	12%	1,628	11%	2,817	27%	68	25%	---	---	16,794	22%
Not Hispanic/Latino	6,578	48%	6,705	60%	7,344	54%	6,903	65%	10,364	67%	5,820	56%	192	72%	35	100%	43,941	58%
Unspecified	2,997	22%	1,995	18%	1,963	15%	2,410	23%	3,484	23%	1,785	17%	8	3%	---	---	14,642	19%
Total	13,797	100%	11,248	100%	13,508	100%	10,623	100%	15,476	100%	10,422	100%	268	100%	35	100%	75,377	100%

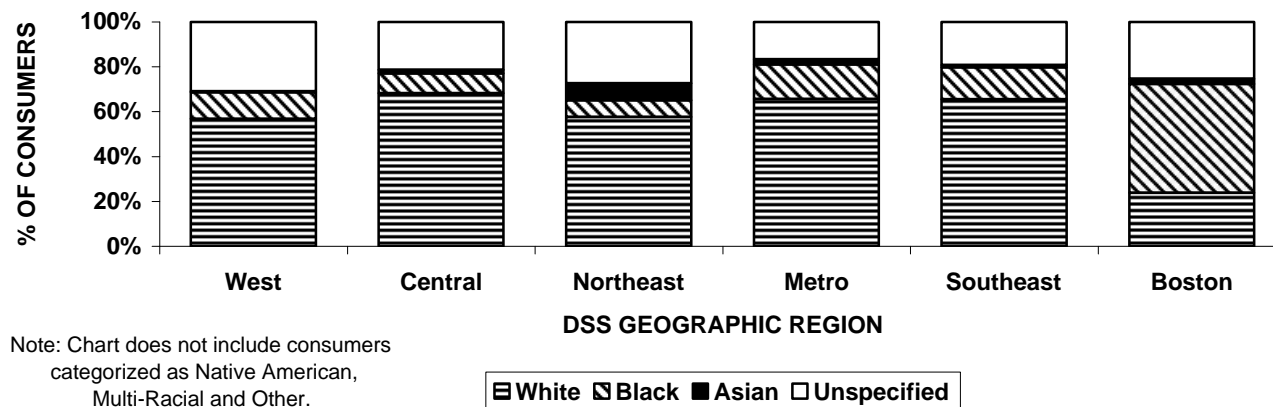
Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic origin.

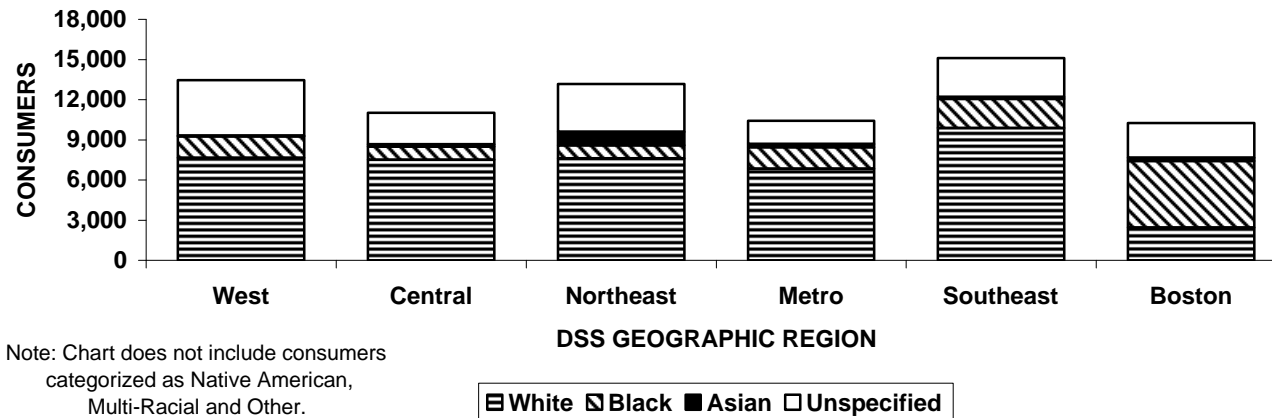
⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽³⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

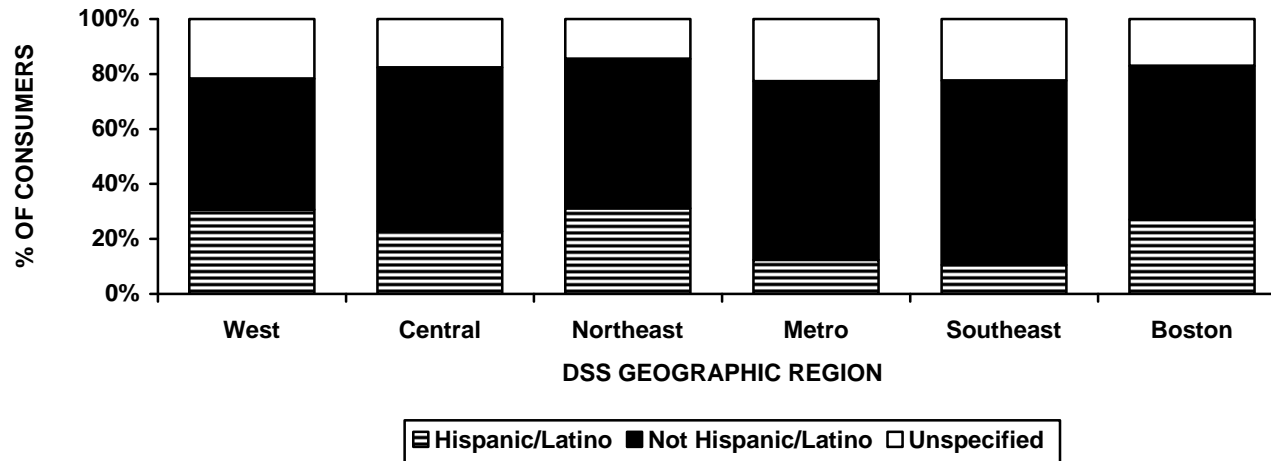
**Figure 6A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
BY RACE
(FY'04, 4TH QUARTER)**



**Figure 6B. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
BY RACE
(FY'04, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 6C. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 6D. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**

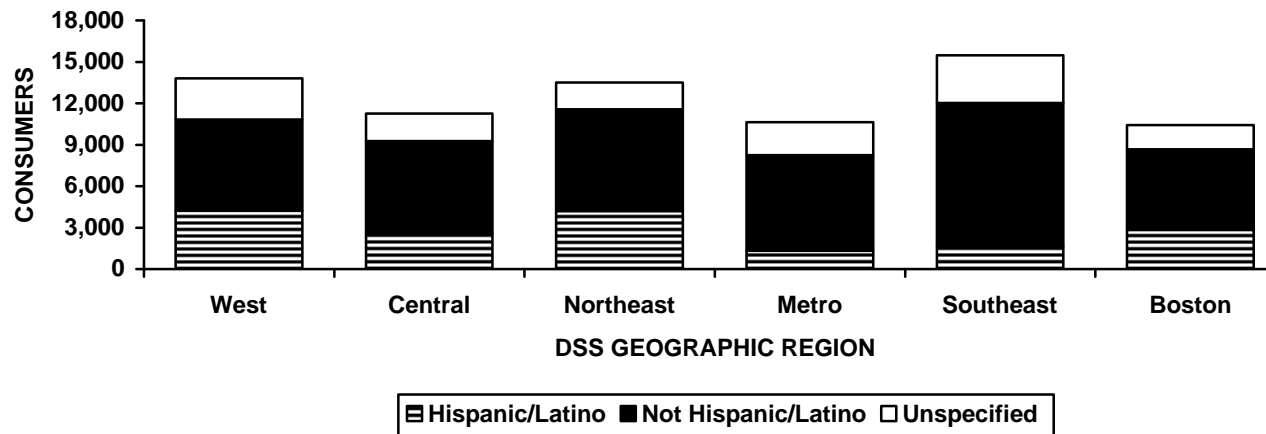


TABLE 4. PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF CONSUMERS BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Primary Language	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption		Other ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Contracts ⁽¹⁾					
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Spanish	1,128	8%	490	4%	1,175	9%	315	3%	321	2%	844	8%	14	5%	---	---	4,287	6%
Khmer (Cambodian)	2	*	5	*	381	3%	1	*	57	*	18	*	1	*	---	---	465	1%
Portuguese	2	*	8	*	33	*	84	1%	113	1%	28	*	---	---	---	---	268	*
Haitian Creole	3	*	2	*	13	*	124	1%	23	*	67	1%	1	*	---	---	233	*
Cape Verdean Creole	2	*	---	---	---	---	7	*	62	*	54	1%	---	---	---	---	125	*
Vietnamese	4	*	36	*	32	*	24	*	3	*	45	*	---	---	---	---	144	*
Chinese	5	*	1	*	---	---	22	*	---	---	21	*	---	---	---	---	49	*
Lao	1	*	---	---	11	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	*
American Sign Language	4	*	---	---	4	*	6	*	6	*	8	*	---	---	---	---	28	*
Other	454	3%	304	3%	232	2%	276	3%	386	2%	235	2%	3	1%	28	80%	1,918	3%
English/Unspecified	12,192	88%	10,402	92%	11,627	86%	9,764	92%	14,505	94%	9,102	87%	249	93%	7	20%	67,848	90%
Total	13,797	100%	11,248	100%	13,508	100%	10,623	100%	15,476	100%	10,422	100%	268	100%	35	100%	75,377	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽²⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

Profile of Consumers in Placement¹

Foster and Residential Care

- There were 7,820 consumers in foster care and 2,520 consumers in residential care on the last day of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004. Foster care populations were highest in the Western and Southeastern Regions. The number of consumers in residential care was greatest in the Southeastern, Northeastern, and Metro Regions. **(Table 5A)**
- From the 3rd to the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, the foster care population declined 3% and the residential care population decreased 5%. **(Figs. 9 and 10)**
- The largest age group in foster care was 12-17 years (34-42% range across regions). Among regions, the West, Southeast, and Northeast had the highest numbers of adolescents in foster care, 645, 571, and 513, respectively. **(Table 5A)**
- Adolescents were the primary age group in residential care, ranging from 67% to 79% across the regions. The Southeastern, Northeastern, and Metro Regions had the largest adolescent populations in residential care, 393, 361, and 353, respectively. **(Table 5A)**
- Consumers in non-referral locations² were primarily adolescents (73-92% regional range). **(Table 5A)**
- There were 1,675 consumers in “Contracted” foster care and 6,145 consumers in “Departmental” foster care. Contracted foster care was primarily therapeutic (93% of the consumers). Departmental foster care was separated into unrestricted (40%), kinship (33%), child specific (13%), pre-adoptive (8%), and independent living (6%). **(Table 5B)**
- Regionally, the West had the largest numbers of consumers in unrestricted, child-specific, and pre-adoptive foster care. Consumers in kinship care were highest in the Southeast. The Northeast had the most consumers in independent living. **(Fig. 7B, Table 5B)**

¹ Consumers include children less than 18 years old and young adults 18 to 23 years old.

² Non-referral locations include hospitals, other state agencies, and on the run from placement.

- The proportions of consumers in different types of departmental foster care are displayed for each region in Figure 7A. Consumers in unrestricted homes were most prevalent in the West, Boston, and Southeast. The Metro, Southeast, and Northeast had the largest proportions of consumers in kinship homes. Consumers in child-specific homes were most evident in Central. The Central Region also had the highest proportion of consumers in pre-adoptive homes. Consumers in independent living were proportionally higher in Boston as compared to the other regions. **(Fig. 7A)**
- The major residential programs were Commonworks¹ (1,232 consumers), residential treatment (776 consumers), and group homes (438 consumers). **(Table 5C)**
- The proportions of consumers in different types of residential care are shown for each region in Figure 8A. The Western Region had the highest proportion of consumers in Commonworks. Central had the greatest proportion of consumers in group homes. The proportion of consumers in residential treatment was most significant in the Northeast. **(Fig. 8A)**
- The Southeast had the greatest number of consumers in Commonworks. Central had the largest number of clients in group homes. The Northeastern Region had the most consumers in residential treatment. **(Fig. 8B)**
- Consumers in Residential Treatment were mostly situated in Chapter 766 facilities² while the leading Group Home models were Regular³ and Bridge⁴ homes. The major types of sub-referrals under Commonworks were Chapter 766 and Regular homes. **(Tables 5C and 5D)**
- Over the past four quarters, there was no significant growth in the regional foster and residential care populations. **(Figs. 9 and 10)**

¹ Commonworks is a community-based program that provides residential placement services, therapeutic foster care, and family support services to adolescents and their families.

² Chapter 766 includes facilities geared toward children/adolescents who require special needs educational services on-site. These facilities are licensed by the Department of Education.

³ Regular is comprised of programs that provide services in home-like settings with typically 8 to 12 children/adolescents in residence.

⁴ Bridge Homes are small group home settings serving 6 to 10 infants and children up to 12 years old as well as sibling groups. Foster home or house parents supervise the home.

All Placement Locations (Combined Counts)

- At the end of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, the statewide placement population was comprised of 51% boys and 49% girls. Regionally, the gender difference showed little deviation from the state. **(Table 6A, Fig. 11A)**
- Statewide, 61% of all consumers in placement were White, 19% were Black, 2% were Asian, less than 1% were Native American, and 4% were multi-racial. Race was unknown for 14% of the placement population. **(Table 6A, Fig. 11A)**
- The proportion of minority consumers in placement was highest in the Boston Region. **(Table 6A).**
- The Western Region had the highest number and proportion of consumers with race unspecified (486 and 21%). **(Table 6A)**
- Of the total placement population, 25% (2,711 consumers) self-identified as being of Hispanic origin. Hispanic consumers were most prevalent in the Western and Northeastern Regions. **(Table 6A, Fig. 11A)**
- Adolescents were the largest age group in placement in each of the DSS Regions. The proportion of adolescents ranged from 44% in the West to 52% in both the Northeast and Boston. **(Table 6B)**
- The Southeastern and Northeastern Regions had the highest numbers of young adults (18 years or older) in placement. **(Table 6B)**
- The most prominent service plan goals of consumers in placement were “Family Reunification” (31% of all consumers in placement) and “Adoption” (26%). Regionally, the Southeast had the highest number and proportion of consumers in placement with a goal of reunifying the family. The West and Southeast had the highest numbers of consumers in placement with a goal of adoption. **(Table 6B, Fig. 11B)**
- Statewide, 44% of the placement population had been in continuous care¹ for more than 2 years, 21% between 1 and 2 years, and 34% for 1 year or less. **(Table 6B, Fig. 11B)**

¹ Length of stay in placement, as measured by a “point-in-time snapshot” of consumers residing in care, is not representative of all individuals who spend time in care during some specified period. It is biased because consumers in continuous long-term placement are over-represented in “snapshot” counts and many others who enter and leave placement quickly are not counted at all.

- The Western, Northeastern, and Boston Regions had the highest proportions of consumers in continuous¹ care for more than two years (47%, 45%, and 45%, respectively). Metro had the highest proportion of consumers in care for one year or less (40%). The Southeast had the largest number of consumers in care for one year or less (840). **(Table 6B)**
- Tables 7A and 7B display the race and Hispanic origin of consumers in placement by their length of time in continuous care. There was a tendency for more Black consumers (25%) to be in care for more than four years as compared to White consumers (20%) and consumers of Hispanic origin (22%). The proportions of White, Black, and Hispanic consumers were not noticeably different for the shorter lengths of stay. **(Tables 7A and 7B)**
- At the end of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004 ("snapshot" on 6/30/04), the median² time in continuous care was 1.5 years and median age was 12.3 years for all children less than 18 years old in placement. Over the past 13 years, the median age of children in care has slowly increased while the median time in placement has been fairly stable (See table below).

All Children in Placement ³			
Date	Age (yrs)	Median Continuous Time in Placement (yrs)	Number of Children
7/92	9.2	1.5	12,311
7/93	9.3	1.6	12,577
7/94	9.1	1.4	12,977
7/95	9.2	1.3	13,056
7/96	9.7	1.4	12,643
7/97	10.2	1.4	11,957
9/98*	10.5	1.4	10,872
6/99*	11.0	1.2	10,134
6/00*	11.2	1.5	9,676
6/01*	11.5	1.4	9,955
6/02	11.9	1.5	10,033
6/03	12.2	1.5	10,233
9/03	12.2	1.5	10,106
12/03	12.3	1.5	10,162
3/04	12.2	1.5	10,200
6/04	12.3	1.5	9,829

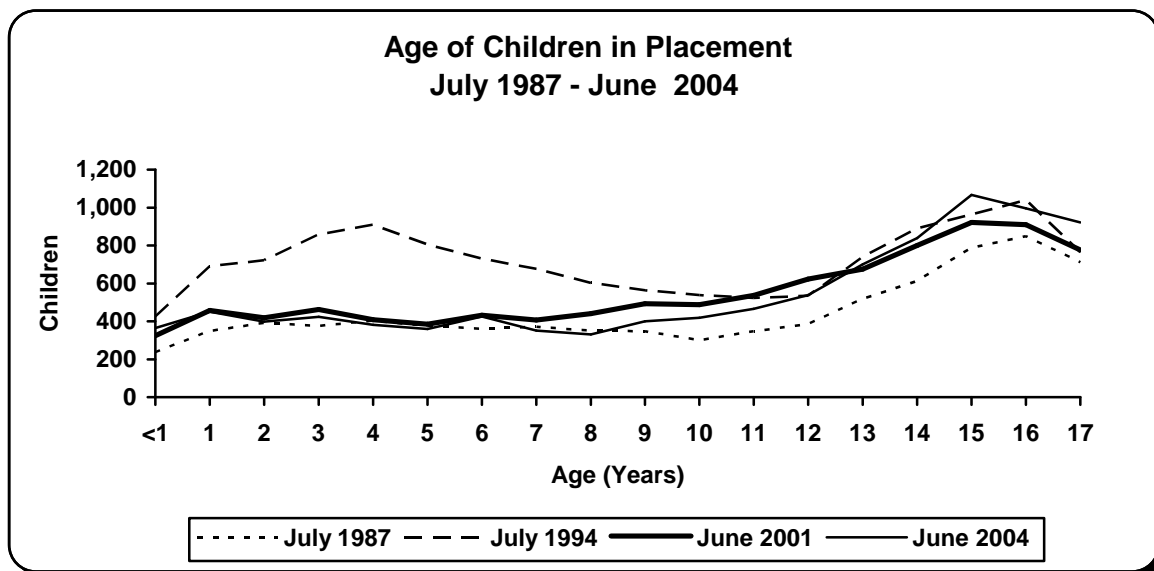
* = revised statistics

¹ Continuous time in care is defined as the span of time from the child's most recent placement entry to the Quarter End Date (June 30, 2004). In DSS Quarterly Reports prior to the 4th Quarter of FY'94, the time (non-continuous) from the child's first placement entry to the program run-date was used.

² Half of the children are younger than the median and half are older.

³ Children are less than 18 years old.

- The figure below shows the ages of children in placement at four points in time. From 1987 to 1994, the number of younger children in care increased at a faster rate than the number of adolescents. Peak numbers of young children were reached in 1994. Thereafter, the trend reversed as subsequent age curves showed a gradual reduction in the young child population. By the years 2001-2004, the age distribution of children in placement dropped to level that approaches the 1987 curve. Throughout this 17-year period, the adolescent population was relatively stable. It should be noted that the total number of children in care (less than 18 years old) at each point in time was 8,078 in 1987, 12,977 in 1994, 9,732 in 2001, and 9,829 in 2004.



Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption

- Out of 2,766 consumers in placement with a goal of adoption, 1,676 (61%) were White, 463 (17%) were Black, 27 (1%) were Asian, 141 (5%) were multi-racial, and 16% were an unspecified race. Thirty percent (819) of all consumers in placement with a goal of adoption were of Hispanic origin. (**Tables 8A and 8B, Fig. 12A**)
- The age distribution of 2,766 consumers in placement with a goal of adoption was: 21% age 0-2 years, 25% age 3-5 years, 41% age 6-11 years, and 12% age 12-17 years. (**Table 8C, Fig. 12A**)
- Fifty-three percent of the consumers with a goal of adoption were male and 47% were female. (**Fig. 12A**)

- Fifty-eight percent of the consumers in placement with a goal of adoption had been in continuous placement for more than two years. **(Table 8D, Fig. 12A)**
- Forty-eight percent of the consumers in placement with a goal of guardianship had been in continuous placement for more than two years. **(Table 8D)**
- There has been a decline in the number of children¹ in placement with a goal of adoption since 1994 (peak value of 4,522). In 1997, this group of “waiting” children fell below 4,000 for the first time since 1991. In general, changes in the number of children with a goal of adoption have coincided with changes in the placement population. (See table below)
- The proportion of “waiting” children reached its highest level in 1994 (35%). Since 1994, the proportion of children with a goal of adoption has dropped to 28%. (See table below)

Date	Children in Placement	Children in Placement with a Goal of Adoption	% of Children with a Goal of Adoption
7/91	12,397	3,541	29%
7/92	12,311	4,116	33%
7/93	12,577	4,244	34%
7/94	12,977	4,522	35%
7/95	13,056	4,352	33%
7/96	12,463	4,251	34%
7/97	11,957	3,673	31%
1/98	11,170	3,489	31%
9/98	10,872	NA	NA
6/99	10,134	3,118	31%
6/00	9,676	3,089	32%
6/01	9,955	2,859	29%
6/02	10,033	2,844	28%
6/03	10,233	2,866	28%
9/03	10,106	2,824	28%
12/03	10,162	2,844	28%
3/04	10,200	2,898	28%
6/04	9,829	2,766	28%

Notes: Children are less than 18 years old.

Counts of children in placement have been updated for the years 6/99 – 6/01.

¹ Children are less than 18 years old.

- Of the 2,766 “waiting” children in placement with a goal of adoption, 41% were legally free for adoption. Eighty-two percent of the freed children were matched to a permanent family. **(Fig. 12B)**
- Of those children who were not legally free for adoption (59%), 63% were matched to permanent families **(Fig. 12B)**.
- The Southeastern Region had the highest proportion (57%) of “waiting” children who were legally free for adoption. The Southeastern and Western Regions had the highest proportions of “waiting” children who were matched to a permanent family, 82% and 81%, respectively. **(Figs. 12C and 12D)**

TABLE 5A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT: AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

		Placement Location of Consumers						
DSS		Foster		Residential		Other ⁽²⁾		Total
Geographic		Care		Care				
Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Western		1,851		289		133		2,273
	(0 - 2 yrs)	291	16%	---	---	2	2%	293
	(3 - 5 yrs)	270	15%	5	2%	---	---	275
	(6 - 11 yrs)	513	28%	29	10%	10	8%	552
	(12 - 17 yrs)	645	35%	229	79%	115	86%	989
	18 or older	132	7%	26	9%	6	5%	164
Central		1,130		339		53		1,522
	(0 - 2 yrs)	160	14%	1	*	1	2%	162
	(3 - 5 yrs)	169	15%	2	1%	1	2%	172
	(6 - 11 yrs)	355	31%	49	14%	2	4%	406
	(12 - 17 yrs)	383	34%	252	74%	46	87%	681
	18 or older	63	6%	35	10%	3	6%	101
Northeast		1,277		499		104		1,880
	(0 - 2 yrs)	152	12%	2	*	1	1%	155
	(3 - 5 yrs)	166	13%	3	1%	---	---	169
	(6 - 11 yrs)	328	26%	75	15%	2	2%	405
	(12 - 17 yrs)	513	40%	361	72%	96	92%	970
	18 or older	118	9%	58	12%	5	5%	181
Metro		818		485		37		1,340
	(0 - 2 yrs)	132	16%	1	*	---	---	133
	(3 - 5 yrs)	131	16%	3	1%	2	5%	136
	(6 - 11 yrs)	171	21%	62	13%	7	19%	240
	(12 - 17 yrs)	288	35%	353	73%	27	73%	668
	18 or older	96	12%	66	14%	1	3%	163
Southeast		1,628		515		73		2,216
	(0 - 2 yrs)	287	18%	---	---	1	1%	288
	(3 - 5 yrs)	249	15%	6	1%	2	3%	257
	(6 - 11 yrs)	394	24%	59	11%	2	3%	455
	(12 - 17 yrs)	571	35%	393	76%	61	84%	1,025
	18 or older	127	8%	57	11%	7	10%	191
Boston		827		388		89		1,304
	(0 - 2 yrs)	145	18%	---	---	---	---	145
	(3 - 5 yrs)	91	11%	---	---	---	---	91
	(6 - 11 yrs)	152	18%	56	14%	---	---	208
	(12 - 17 yrs)	344	42%	260	67%	80	90%	684
	18 or older	95	11%	72	19%	9	10%	176
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾		258		5		1		264
	(0 - 2 yrs)	37	14%	---	---	---	---	37
	(3 - 5 yrs)	62	24%	1	20%	1	100%	64
	(6 - 11 yrs)	122	47%	4	80%	---	---	126
	(12 - 17 yrs)	37	14%	---	---	---	---	37
Other ⁽⁴⁾		31		---		---		31
	(12 - 17 yrs)	6	19%	---	---	---	---	6
	18 or older	25	81%	---	---	---	---	25
Total		7,820		2,520		490		10,830

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).⁽²⁾ "Other" includes locations such as hospitals and other state agencies, as well as consumers on the run from placement.⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽⁴⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6 , 2004

TABLE 5B. CONSUMERS IN FOSTER CARE: AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

		Foster Care													Foster Care Total
DSS Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	Contracted Foster Care						Departmental Foster Care							
		Diagnostic	Emergency Shelter	Enhanced Therapeutic	Family Residence	Independent Living	Other Therapeutic	Child Specific	Independent Living	Kinship	Pre-Adoptive	Unrestricted			
Western		2	13	---	16	7	---	338	204	75	421	133	642	1,851	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	2	---	---	5	18	---	73	64	129	291	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	10	24	---	96	28	111	270	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	5	---	1	---	---	106	62	---	132	35	172	513	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	2	7	---	12	---	---	196	91	11	111	5	210	645	
	18 or older	---	---	---	1	7	---	21	9	64	9	1	20	132	
Central		---	4	---	---	---	---	220	137	29	314	91	335	1,130	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	10	---	57	27	63	160	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	13	10	---	61	20	65	169	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	67	53	---	102	37	96	355	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	4	---	---	---	---	126	57	2	87	6	101	383	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	---	11	7	27	7	1	10	63	
Northeast		3	8	1	8	---	7	344	92	80	338	50	346	1,277	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	3	---	---	---	2	17	14	---	43	8	65	152	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	2	---	1	---	4	19	17	---	53	14	56	166	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	1	1	---	1	85	21	---	111	23	84	328	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	2	2	---	6	---	---	209	34	3	122	5	130	513	
	18 or older	---	1	---	---	---	---	14	6	77	9	---	11	118	
Metro		---	2	2	7	---	---	182	80	51	241	36	217	818	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	10	---	38	12	60	132	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	2	---	---	---	22	10	---	46	15	36	131	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	33	11	---	70	7	50	171	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	2	---	6	---	---	101	40	3	75	2	59	288	
	18 or older	---	---	---	1	---	---	14	9	48	12	---	12	96	
Southeast		---	7	1	6	---	---	258	154	77	502	76	547	1,628	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	20	---	86	29	147	287	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	13	13	---	97	31	95	249	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	2	---	3	---	---	55	32	---	153	13	136	394	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	5	---	3	---	---	167	74	6	159	3	154	571	
	18 or older	---	---	1	---	---	---	18	15	71	7	---	15	127	
Boston		---	16	3	6	---	---	179	88	61	184	37	253	827	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	4	---	1	---	---	10	18	---	37	20	55	145	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	17	10	---	29	4	31	91	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	1	1	1	---	---	45	16	---	39	9	40	152	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	11	2	4	---	---	100	40	1	74	4	108	344	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	4	60	5	---	19	95	
Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		---	---	---	---	---	---	35	29	---	36	66	92	258	
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	9	---	4	5	18	37	
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	5	---	13	15	24	62	
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	22	9	---	15	36	40	122	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	6	---	4	10	10	37	
Other ⁽³⁾		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	11	---	---	20	31	
	(12 - 17 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	6	
	18 or older	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	11	---	---	14	25	
Total		5	50	7	43	7	7	1,556	784	384	2,036	489	2,452	7,820	

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).

⁽³⁾ Includes primarily families served through Central Office contracts.

⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

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TABLE 5C. CONSUMERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE: AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS		Residential Care												Residential Care Total
Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	Commonworks	Group Home						Residential Treatment				Shelter	
			Bridge Home	Independent Living	Other ⁽²⁾	Regular	Teen Pregnancy/ Parenting	Transitional Living	Ch. 766	Diagnostic	Non-766	Other ⁽²⁾		
Western		182	22	8	4	5	2	---	41	6	---	9	10	289
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	5
	(6 - 11 yrs)	3	8	---	---	1	---	---	15	---	---	2	---	29
	(12 - 17 yrs)	170	10	3	---	4	1	---	19	5	---	7	10	229
	18 or older	9	---	5	4	---	1	---	6	1	---	---	---	26
Central		124	16	8	---	68	3	---	82	11	1	16	10	339
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	6	---	---	5	---	---	25	4	---	8	---	49
	(12 - 17 yrs)	101	8	5	---	58	2	---	54	7	1	6	10	252
	18 or older	22	---	3	---	4	1	---	3	---	---	2	---	35
Northeast		235	13	12	2	29	---	---	138	55	---	15	---	499
	(0 - 2 yrs)	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	3
	(6 - 11 yrs)	13	5	---	---	9	---	---	40	3	---	5	---	75
	(12 - 17 yrs)	191	6	5	---	19	---	---	82	51	---	7	---	361
	18 or older	30	---	7	2	1	---	---	15	---	---	3	---	58
Metro		200	16	13	2	52	2	3	115	30	9	21	22	485
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
	(6 - 11 yrs)	6	4	---	---	8	---	---	37	1	---	6	---	62
	(12 - 17 yrs)	153	8	8	1	40	2	2	65	29	9	14	22	353
	18 or older	41	---	5	1	4	---	1	13	---	---	1	---	66
Southeast		290	15	2	1	46	6	1	83	34	1	13	23	515
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	4	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	6
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	5	---	---	11	---	---	32	4	---	6	---	59
	(12 - 17 yrs)	247	6	2	---	32	5	---	43	29	1	6	22	393
	18 or older	42	---	---	1	2	1	1	8	---	---	1	1	57
Boston		201	21	9	---	45	9	---	86	5	---	3	9	388
	(6 - 11 yrs)	6	11	---	---	10	---	---	29	---	---	---	---	56
	(12 - 17 yrs)	164	10	---	---	28	6	---	38	4	---	1	9	260
	18 or older	31	---	9	---	7	3	---	19	1	---	2	---	72
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾		---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	5
	(3 - 5 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1
	(6 - 11 yrs)	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	4
Total		1,232	106	52	9	245	22	4	545	143	11	77	74	2,520

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).⁽²⁾ Sites/facilities that differ from the other types of group homes or residential treatment facilities.⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

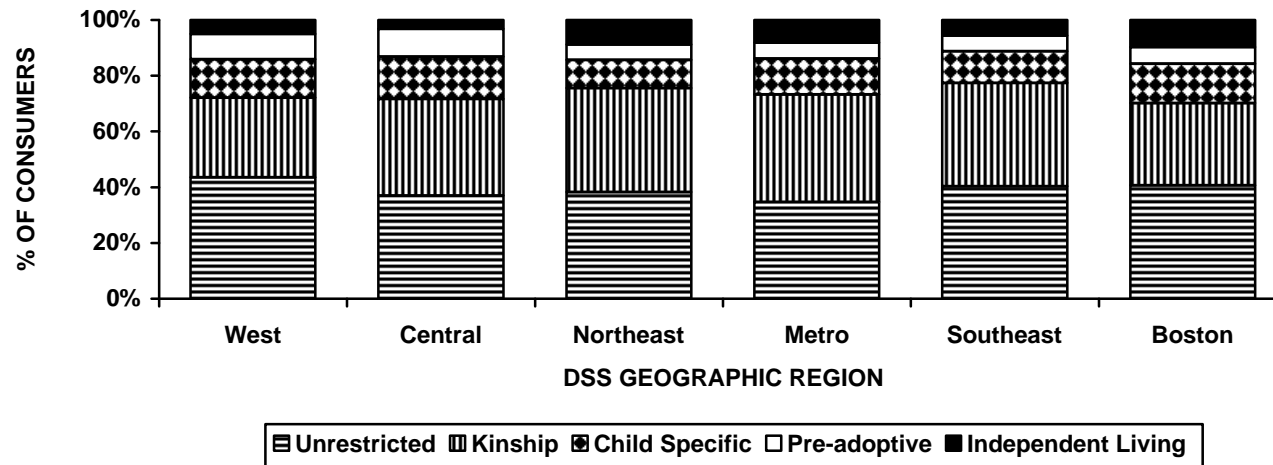
Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

TABLE 5D. CONSUMERS IN COMMONWORKS (SUB-REFERRALS): AGE AND LOCATION BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

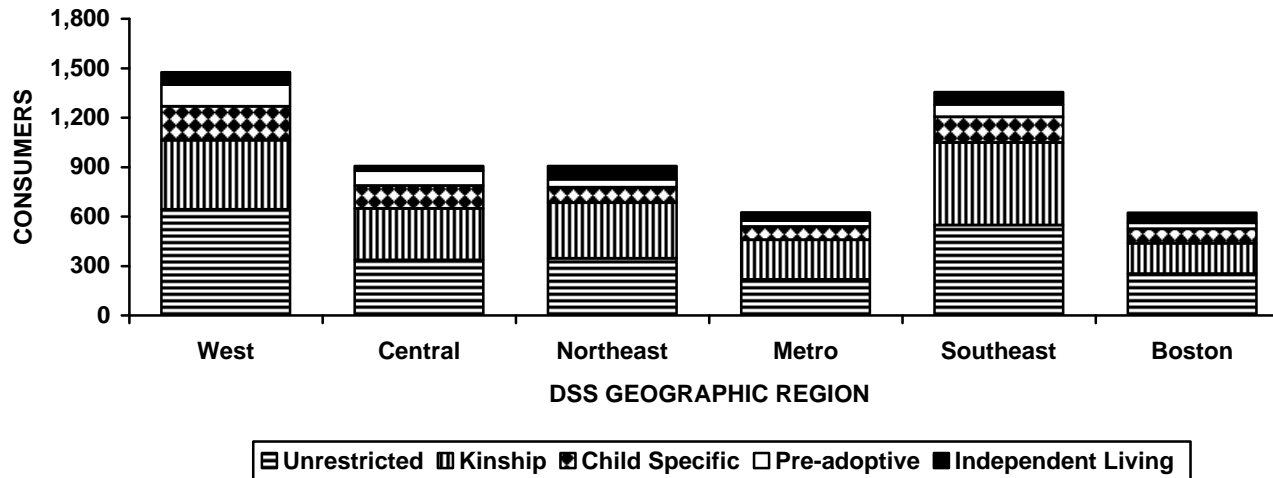
DSS Geographic Region ⁽¹⁾	Age Group	Commonworks											Total
		Ch. 766	Diagnostic	Emergency Shelter	Independent Living	Non-766	Other	Regular	Services	Shelter	Therapeutic	Unspecified	
Western		39	---	---	5	89	2	14	---	2	25	6	182
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
	(12 - 17 yrs)	38	---	---	2	85	2	11	---	2	24	6	170
	18 or older	---	---	---	3	2	---	3	---	---	1	---	9
Central		43	3	---	4	20	---	34	---	2	14	4	124
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
	(12 - 17 yrs)	37	3	---	1	18	---	28	---	2	8	4	101
	18 or older	5	---	---	3	2	---	6	---	---	6	---	22
Northeast		104	2	---	24	32	---	41	1	3	16	12	235
	(0 - 2 yrs)	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1
	(6 - 11 yrs)	13	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	13
	(12 - 17 yrs)	87	2	---	12	30	---	33	---	3	14	10	191
	18 or older	4	---	---	12	2	---	7	1	---	2	2	30
Metro		94	---	---	28	6	2	46	---	4	10	10	200
	(6 - 11 yrs)	5	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	6
	(12 - 17 yrs)	83	---	---	8	5	2	40	---	4	6	5	153
	18 or older	6	---	---	20	---	---	6	---	---	4	5	41
Southeast		141	5	---	12	1	1	74	---	18	32	6	290
	(6 - 11 yrs)	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
	(12 - 17 yrs)	126	5	---	6	1	---	69	---	18	18	4	247
	18 or older	14	---	---	6	---	1	5	---	---	14	2	42
Boston		91	2	2	24	8	1	48	---	6	15	4	201
	(6 - 11 yrs)	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	6
	(12 - 17 yrs)	81	2	2	5	8	1	44	---	6	13	2	164
	18 or older	6	---	---	19	---	---	4	---	---	1	1	31
Total		512	12	2	97	156	6	257	1	35	112	42	1,232

⁽¹⁾ Region having responsibility for the case (child could be placed in another DSS Region).

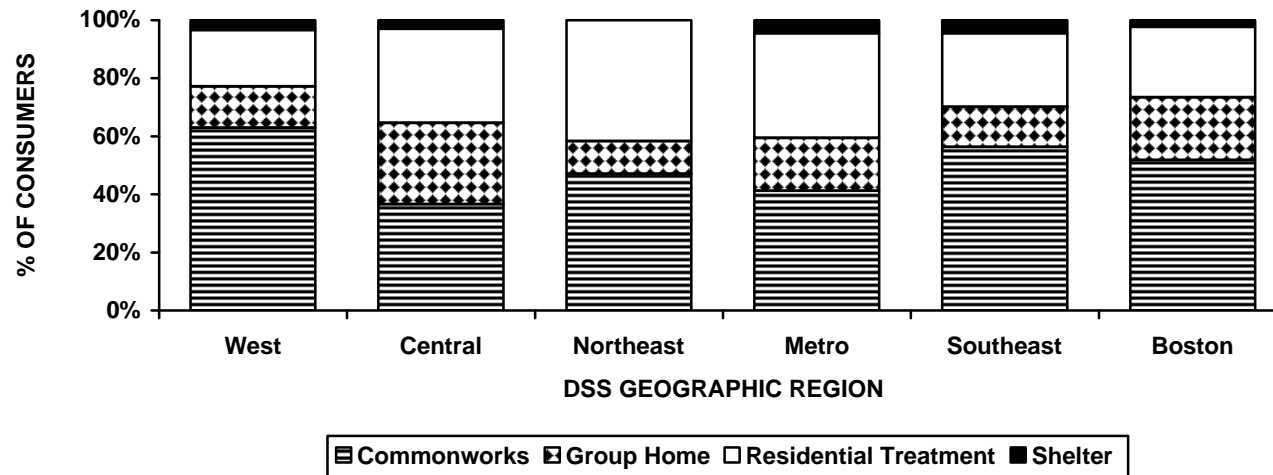
**FIGURE 7A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
IN DEPARTMENTAL FOSTER CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



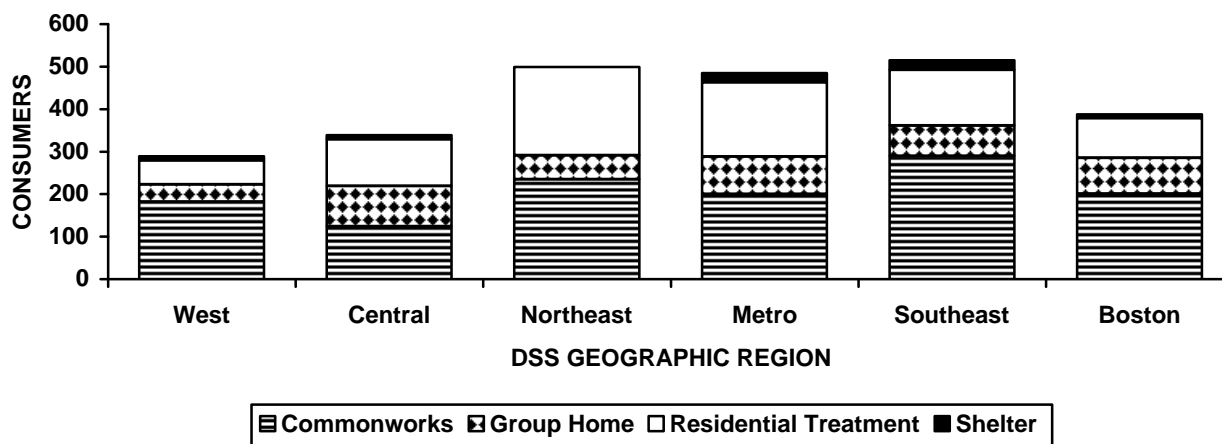
**FIGURE 7B. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
IN DEPARTMENTAL FOSTER CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



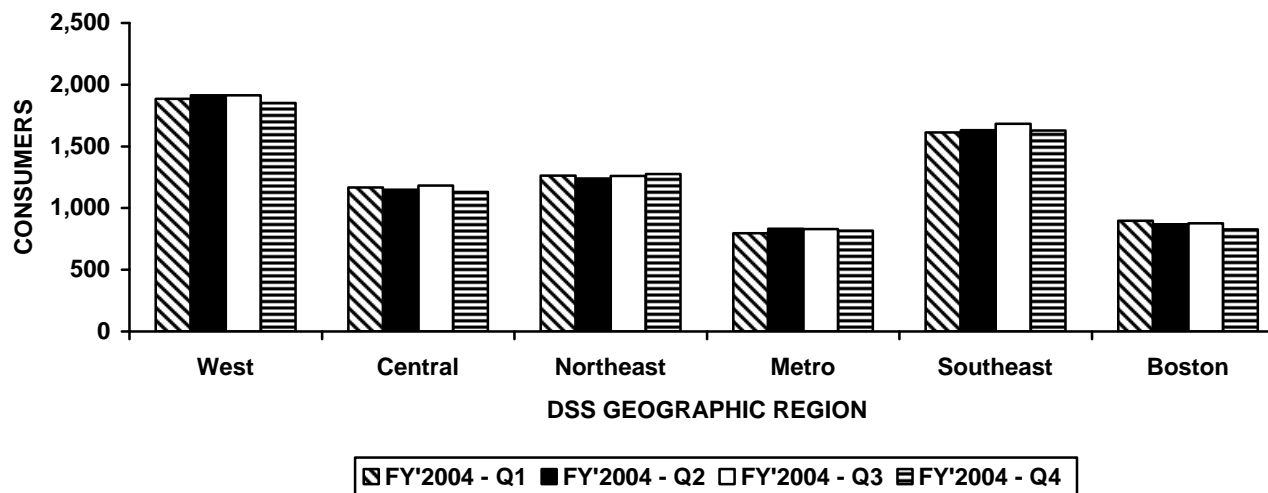
**FIGURE 8A. REGIONAL PROPORTIONS OF CONSUMERS
IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 8B. REGIONAL COUNTS OF CONSUMERS
IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY TYPE OF LOCATION
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 9. CONSUMERS IN FOSTER CARE BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 10. CONSUMERS IN RESIDENTIAL CARE BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**

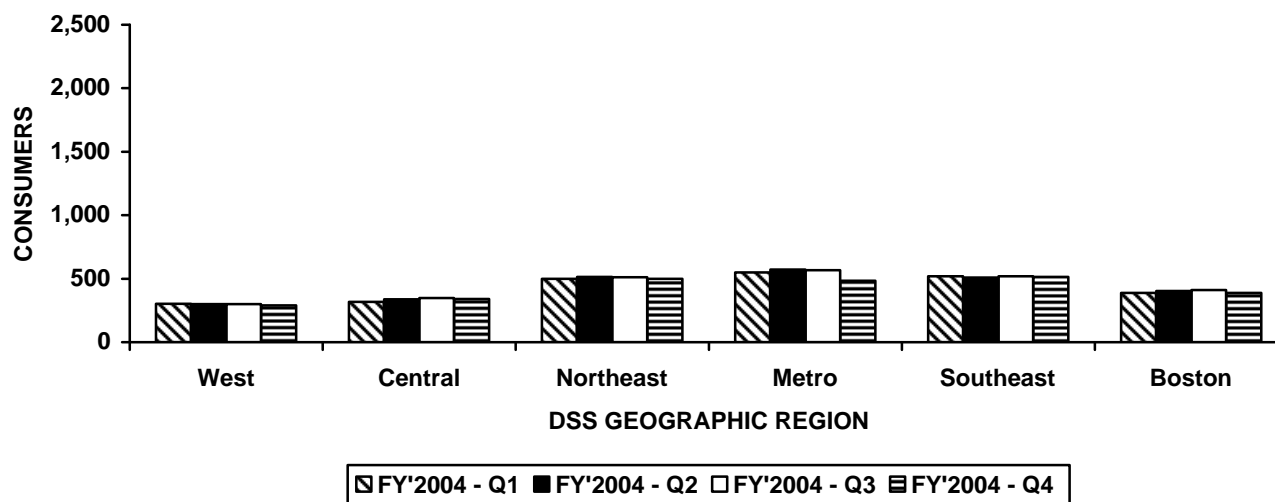


TABLE 6A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT: SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN BY DSS REGIONS AND STATE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Characteristics	DSS Geographic Region												Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾		Other ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		No.		No.		No.	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sex:																		
Female	1,073	47%	753	49%	920	49%	651	49%	1,119	50%	648	50%	121	46%	2	6%	5,287	49%
Male	1,199	53%	769	51%	960	51%	689	51%	1,097	50%	656	50%	143	54%	29	94%	5,542	51%
Unspecified	1	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%
Race:																		
White	1,356	60%	1,101	72%	1,193	63%	944	70%	1,519	69%	358	27%	138	52%	---	---	6,609	61%
Black	335	15%	173	11%	186	10%	222	17%	370	17%	713	55%	73	28%	27	87%	2,099	19%
Asian	1	*	11	1%	122	6%	22	2%	14	1%	16	1%	6	2%	---	---	192	2%
Native American	8	*	---	---	6	*	---	---	7	*	7	1%	2	1%	---	---	30	*
Other ⁽³⁾	5	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*	1	*	---	---	7	*
Multi-Racial	82	4%	49	3%	68	4%	54	4%	93	4%	29	2%	14	5%	---	---	389	4%
Unspecified	486	21%	188	12%	305	16%	98	7%	213	10%	180	14%	30	11%	4	13%	1,504	14%
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%
Hispanic/Latino Origin:																		
Hispanic/Latino	859	38%	406	27%	611	33%	162	12%	301	14%	306	23%	66	25%	---	---	2,711	25%
Not Hispanic/Latino	1,299	57%	1,051	69%	1,235	66%	1,130	84%	1,793	81%	941	72%	190	72%	31	100%	7,670	71%
Unspecified	115	5%	65	4%	34	2%	48	4%	122	6%	57	4%	8	3%	---	---	449	4%
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily consumers served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

TABLE 6B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT: AGE, SERVICE PLAN GOAL, AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE BY DSS REGIONS AND STATE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Characteristics	DSS Geographic Region														Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾ Other ⁽²⁾				Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston									
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Age:																				
(0 - 2 yrs)	293	13%	162	11%	155	8%	133	10%	288	13%	145	11%	37	14%	---	---	1,213	11%		
(3 - 5 yrs)	275	12%	172	11%	169	9%	136	10%	257	12%	91	7%	64	24%	---	---	1,164	11%		
(6 - 11 yrs)	552	24%	406	27%	405	22%	240	18%	455	21%	208	16%	126	48%	---	---	2,392	22%		
(12 - 17 yrs)	989	44%	681	45%	970	52%	668	50%	1,025	46%	684	52%	37	14%	6	19%	5,060	47%		
18 or older	164	7%	101	7%	181	10%	163	12%	191	9%	176	13%	---	---	25	81%	1,001	9%		
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%		
Service Plan Goals:																				
Reunify Family	589	26%	489	32%	612	33%	475	35%	813	37%	378	29%	1	*	---	---	3,357	31%		
Adoption	659	29%	444	29%	374	20%	250	19%	525	24%	257	20%	257	97%	---	---	2,766	26%		
Living Independently	359	16%	178	12%	348	19%	262	20%	328	15%	287	22%	---	---	31	100%	1,793	17%		
Long-Term Substitute Care	383	17%	177	12%	305	16%	154	11%	251	11%	203	16%	---	---	---	---	1,473	14%		
Guardianship	104	5%	124	8%	80	4%	65	5%	128	6%	49	4%	6	2%	---	---	556	5%		
Stabilize Intact Family	109	5%	66	4%	82	4%	76	6%	75	3%	60	5%	---	---	---	---	468	4%		
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	43	2%	26	2%	49	3%	30	2%	81	4%	51	4%	---	---	---	---	280	3%		
Unspecified	27	1%	18	1%	30	2%	28	2%	15	1%	19	1%	---	---	---	---	137	1%		
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%		
Continuous Time in Care:																				
(.5 yr or less)	411	18%	302	20%	387	21%	334	25%	476	21%	259	20%	2	1%	---	---	2,171	20%		
(> .5 - 1 yr)	285	13%	239	16%	247	13%	201	15%	364	16%	196	15%	8	3%	---	---	1,540	14%		
(> 1 - 1.5 yrs)	282	12%	185	12%	245	13%	167	12%	289	13%	157	12%	23	9%	1	3%	1,349	12%		
(> 1.5 - 2 yrs)	222	10%	151	10%	167	9%	110	8%	216	10%	97	7%	48	18%	---	---	1,011	9%		
(> 2 - 4 yrs)	533	23%	406	27%	390	21%	291	22%	496	22%	290	22%	114	43%	30	97%	2,550	24%		
> 4 yrs	540	24%	239	16%	444	24%	236	18%	375	17%	305	23%	69	26%	---	---	2,208	20%		
Unspecified	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*		
Total	2,273	100%	1,522	100%	1,880	100%	1,340	100%	2,216	100%	1,304	100%	264	100%	31	100%	10,830	100%		

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽²⁾ Includes primarily consumers served through Central Office contracts.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

**FIGURE 11A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN
STATEWIDE, (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**

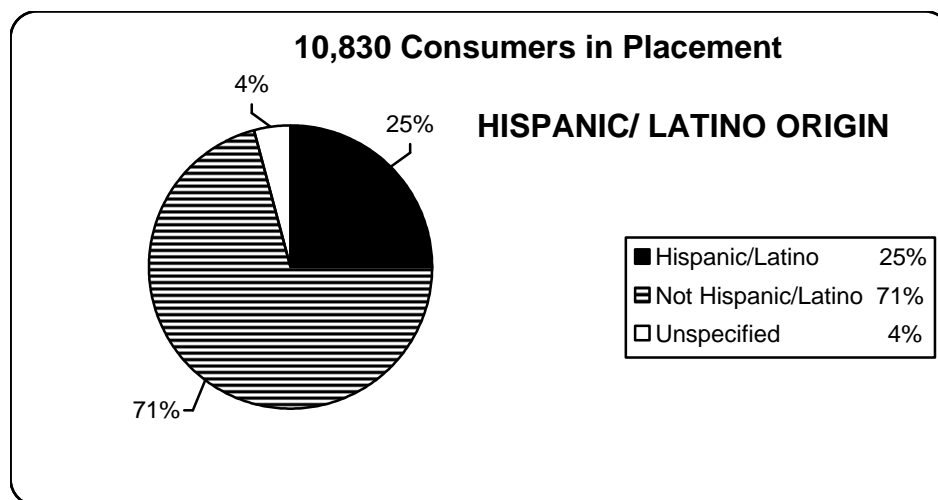
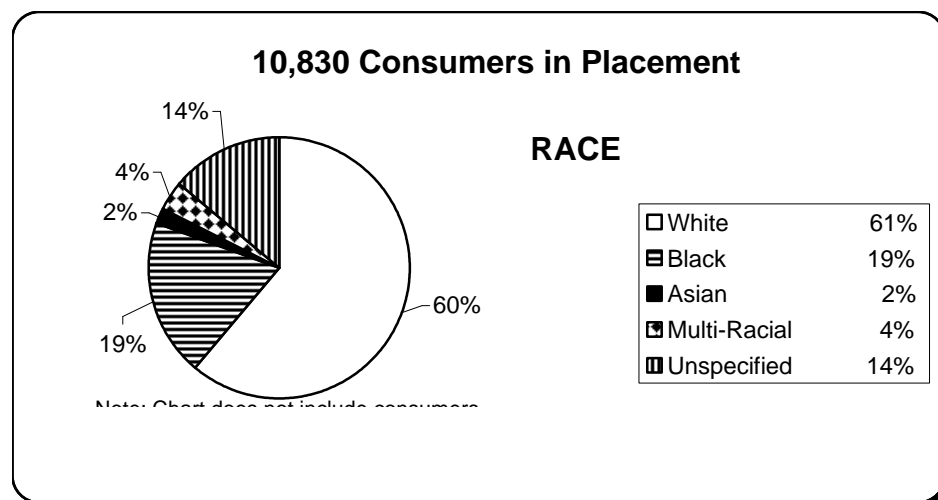
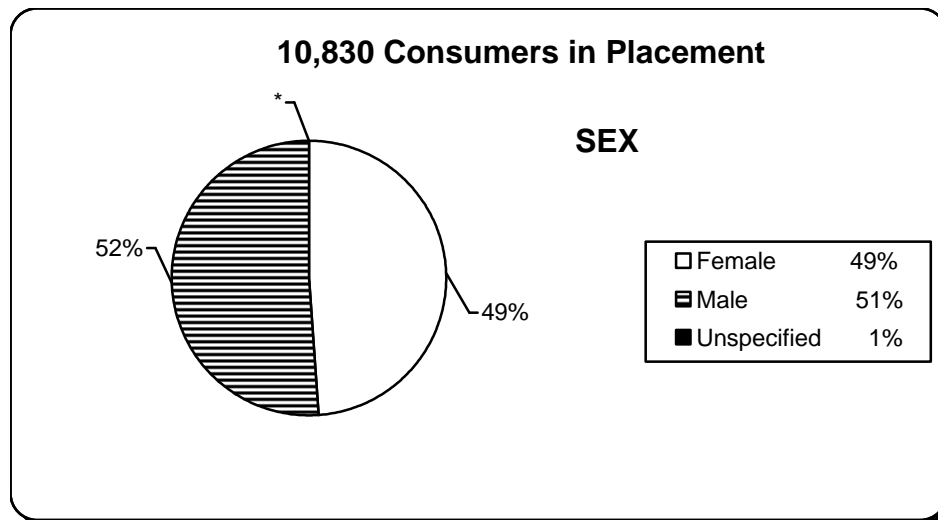


FIGURE 11B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY AGE, SERVICE PLAN GOAL, AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN PLACEMENT STATEWIDE. (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

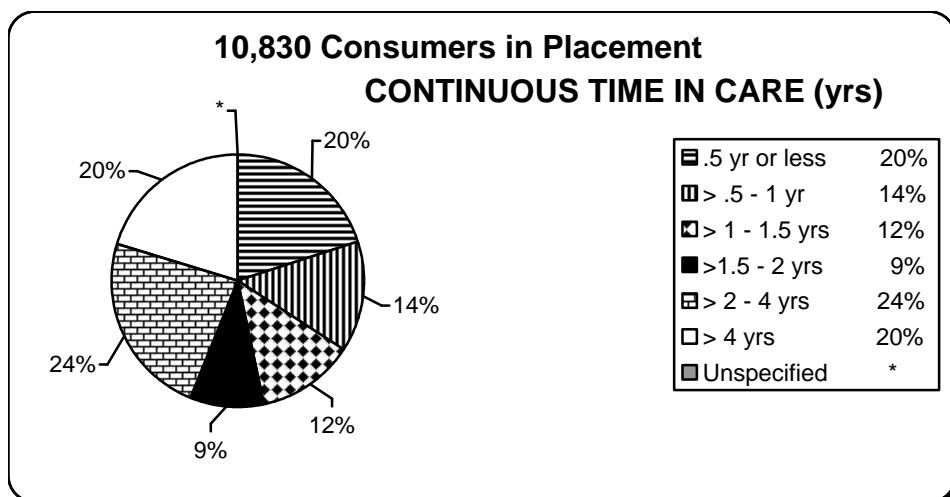
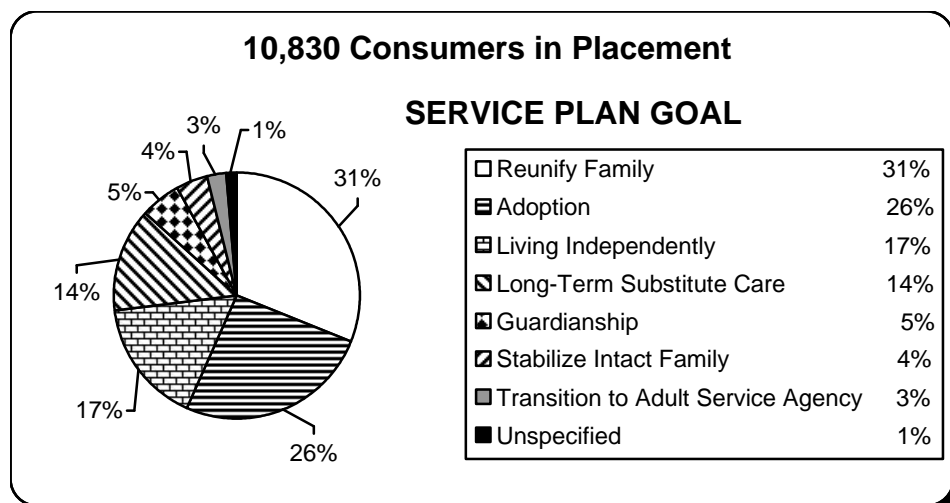
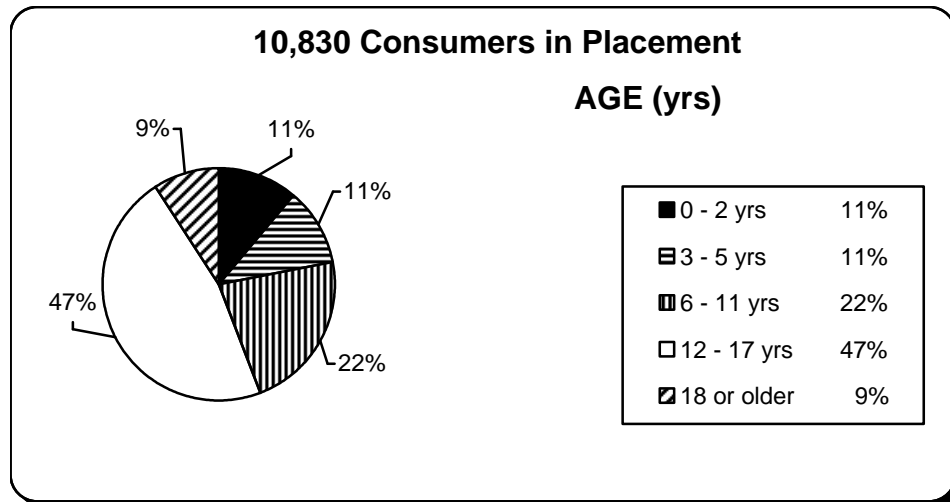


TABLE 7A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY RACE AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE: STATEWIDE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Continuous Time in Care	Race of Consumers														Total							
	White				Black				Asian				Native				Other ⁽¹⁾		Multi-Racial		Unspecified	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
(.5 yr or less)	1,338	20%	362	17%	42	22%	8	27%	---	---	90	23%	331	22%	2,171	20%						
(> .5 - 1 yr)	955	14%	288	14%	29	15%	6	20%	---	---	64	16%	198	13%	1,540	14%						
(>1 - 1.5 yrs)	818	12%	269	13%	21	11%	3	10%	1	14%	51	13%	186	12%	1,349	12%						
(>1.5 - 2 yrs)	658	10%	152	7%	17	9%	1	3%	---	---	41	11%	142	9%	1,011	9%						
(>2 - 4 yrs)	1,541	23%	499	24%	46	24%	1	3%	5	71%	92	24%	366	24%	2,550	24%						
> 4 yrs	1,298	20%	529	25%	37	19%	11	37%	1	14%	51	13%	281	19%	2,208	20%						
Unspecified	1	*	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*						
Total	6,609	100%	2,099	100%	192	100%	30	100%	7	100%	389	100%	1,504	100%	10,830	100%						

(¹) Includes Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 7B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN AND CONTINUOUS TIME IN CARE: STATEWIDE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Continuous Time in Care	Hispanic/Latino Origin ⁽¹⁾ of Consumers						Total	
	Hispanic/		Not Hispanic/		Unspecified			
	Latino		Latino				No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
(.5 yr or less)	517	19%	1,539	20%	115	26%	2,171	20%
(> .5 - 1 yr)	400	15%	1,079	14%	61	14%	1,540	14%
(>1 - 1.5 yrs)	312	12%	981	13%	56	12%	1,349	12%
(>1.5 - 2 yrs)	226	8%	735	10%	50	11%	1,011	9%
(>2 - 4 yrs)	647	24%	1,805	24%	98	22%	2,550	24%
> 4 yrs	609	22%	1,530	20%	69	15%	2,208	20%
Unspecified	---	---	1	*	---	---	1	*
Total	2,711	100%	7,670	100%	449	100%	10,830	100%

(¹) Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic origin.

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

TABLE 8A. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY RACE AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Service Plan Goal	Race of Consumers														Total No. %	
	White		Black		Asian		Native American		Other ⁽¹⁾		Multi-Racial		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Reunify Family	2,061	61%	609	18%	78	2%	10	*	2	*	115	3%	482	14%	3,357	100%
Adoption	1,676	61%	463	17%	27	1%	10	*	3	*	141	5%	446	16%	2,766	100%
Living Independently	1,069	60%	459	26%	42	2%	4	*	1	*	31	2%	187	10%	1,793	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	873	59%	334	23%	22	1%	4	*	1	*	45	3%	194	13%	1,473	100%
Guardianship	358	64%	87	16%	11	2%	1	*	---	---	31	6%	68	12%	556	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	297	63%	69	15%	6	1%	1	*	---	---	18	4%	77	16%	468	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	197	70%	55	20%	3	1%	---	---	---	---	2	1%	23	8%	280	100%
Unspecified	78	57%	23	17%	3	2%	---	---	---	---	6	4%	27	20%	137	100%
Total	6,609	61%	2,099	19%	192	2%	30	*	7	*	389	4%	1,504	14%	10,830	100%

(1) Includes Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.

TABLE 8B. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY HISPANIC/LATINO ORIGIN AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Service Plan Goal	Hispanic/Latino Origin of Consumers ⁽²⁾						Total No. %	
	Hispanic/ Latino		Not Hispanic/ Latino		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Reunify Family	810	24%	2,398	71%	149	4%	3,357	100%
Adoption	819	30%	1,816	66%	131	5%	2,766	100%
Living Independently	363	20%	1,377	77%	53	3%	1,793	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	373	25%	1,042	71%	58	4%	1,473	100%
Guardianship	137	25%	393	71%	26	5%	556	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	124	26%	327	70%	17	4%	468	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	52	19%	225	80%	3	1%	280	100%
Unspecified	33	24%	92	67%	12	9%	137	100%
Total	2,711	25%	7,670	71%	449	4%	10,830	100%

(2) Consumers of any race who self-identify as being of Hispanic/Latino origin.

TABLE 8C. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY AGE GROUP AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL: STATEWIDE (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

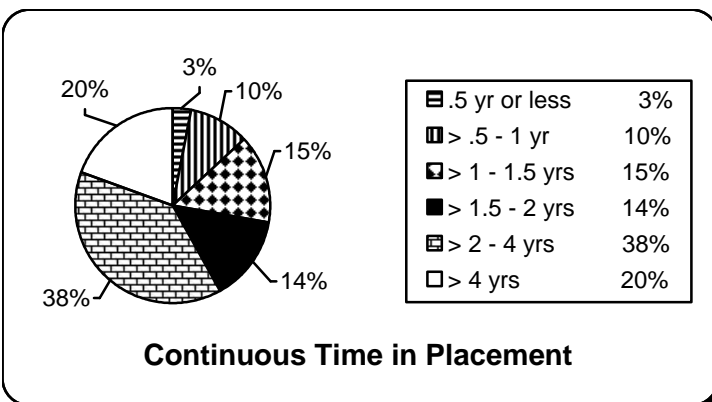
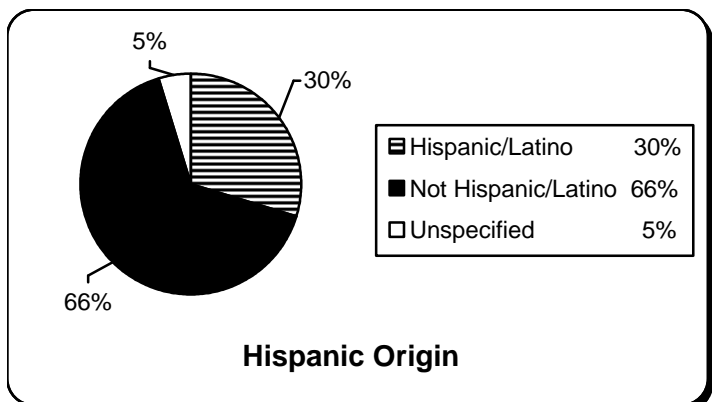
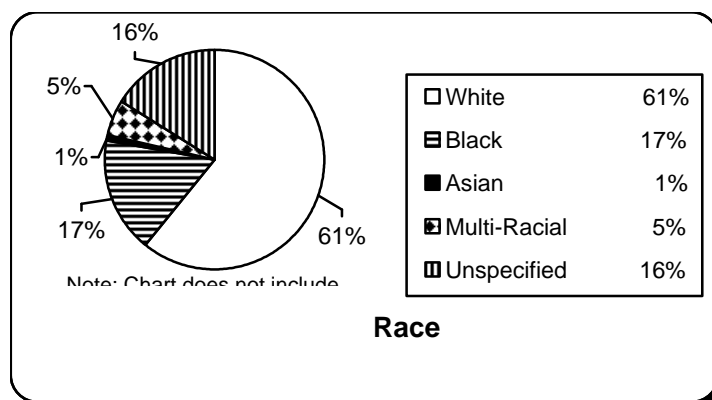
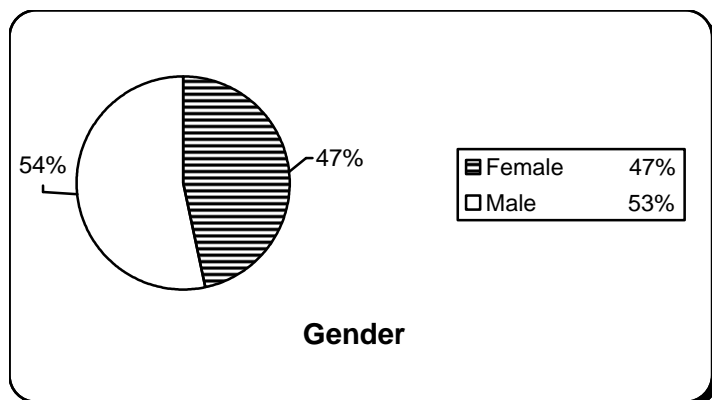
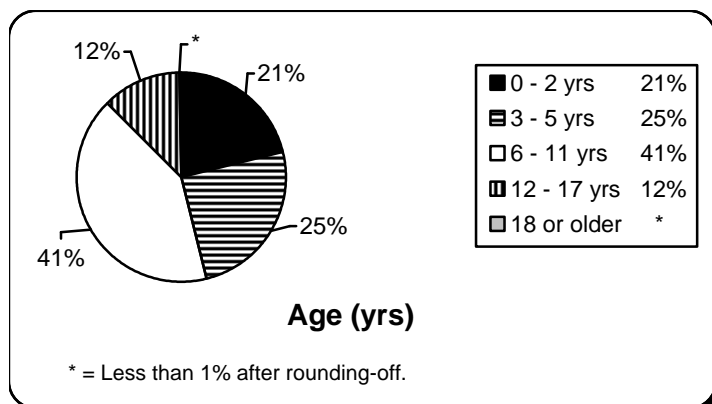
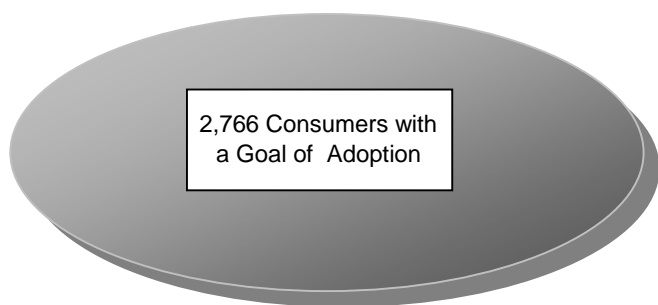
Service Plan Goal	Age Group of Consumers										Total	
	(0 - 2 yrs)		(3 - 5 yrs)		(6 - 11 yrs)		(12 - 17 yrs)		18 or older			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Reunify Family	519	15%	357	11%	784	23%	1,686	50%	11	*	3,357	100%
Adoption	583	21%	696	25%	1,143	41%	339	12%	5	*	2,766	100%
Living Independently	1	*	---	---	---	---	1,028	57%	764	43%	1,793	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	1	*	1	*	179	12%	1,250	85%	42	3%	1,473	100%
Guardianship	22	4%	54	10%	177	32%	298	54%	5	1%	556	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	51	11%	46	10%	84	18%	276	59%	11	2%	468	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	---	---	---	---	6	2%	111	40%	163	58%	280	100%
Unspecified	36	26%	10	7%	19	14%	72	53%	---	---	137	100%
Total	1,213	11%	1,164	11%	2,392	22%	5,060	47%	1,001	9%	10,830	100%

TABLE 8D. CONSUMERS IN PLACEMENT BY CONTINUOUS TIME IN PLACEMENT AND SERVICE PLAN GOAL (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Service Plan Goal	Continuous Time in Placement														Total	
	(.5yr or less)		(> .5 - 1 yr)		(>1 - 1.5 yrs)		(>1.5 - 2 yrs)		(>2 - 4 yrs)		> 4 yrs		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Reunify Family	1,498	45%	936	28%	473	14%	180	5%	228	7%	42	1%	---	---	3,357	100%
Adoption	86	3%	274	10%	412	15%	392	14%	1,061	38%	541	20%	---	---	2,766	100%
Living Independently	56	3%	133	7%	178	10%	176	10%	552	31%	698	39%	---	---	1,793	100%
Long-Term Substitute Care	32	2%	57	4%	134	9%	138	9%	451	31%	661	45%	---	---	1,473	100%
Guardianship	18	3%	63	11%	108	19%	102	18%	177	32%	88	16%	---	---	556	100%
Stabilize Intact Family	343	73%	65	14%	27	6%	9	2%	16	3%	7	1%	1	*	468	100%
Long-Term Care w/Adult Serv. Agen.	3	1%	10	4%	17	6%	14	5%	65	23%	171	61%	---	---	280	100%
Unspecified	135	99%	2	1%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	137	100%
Total	2,171	20%	1,540	14%	1,349	12%	1,011	9%	2,550	24%	2,208	20%	1	*	10,830	100%

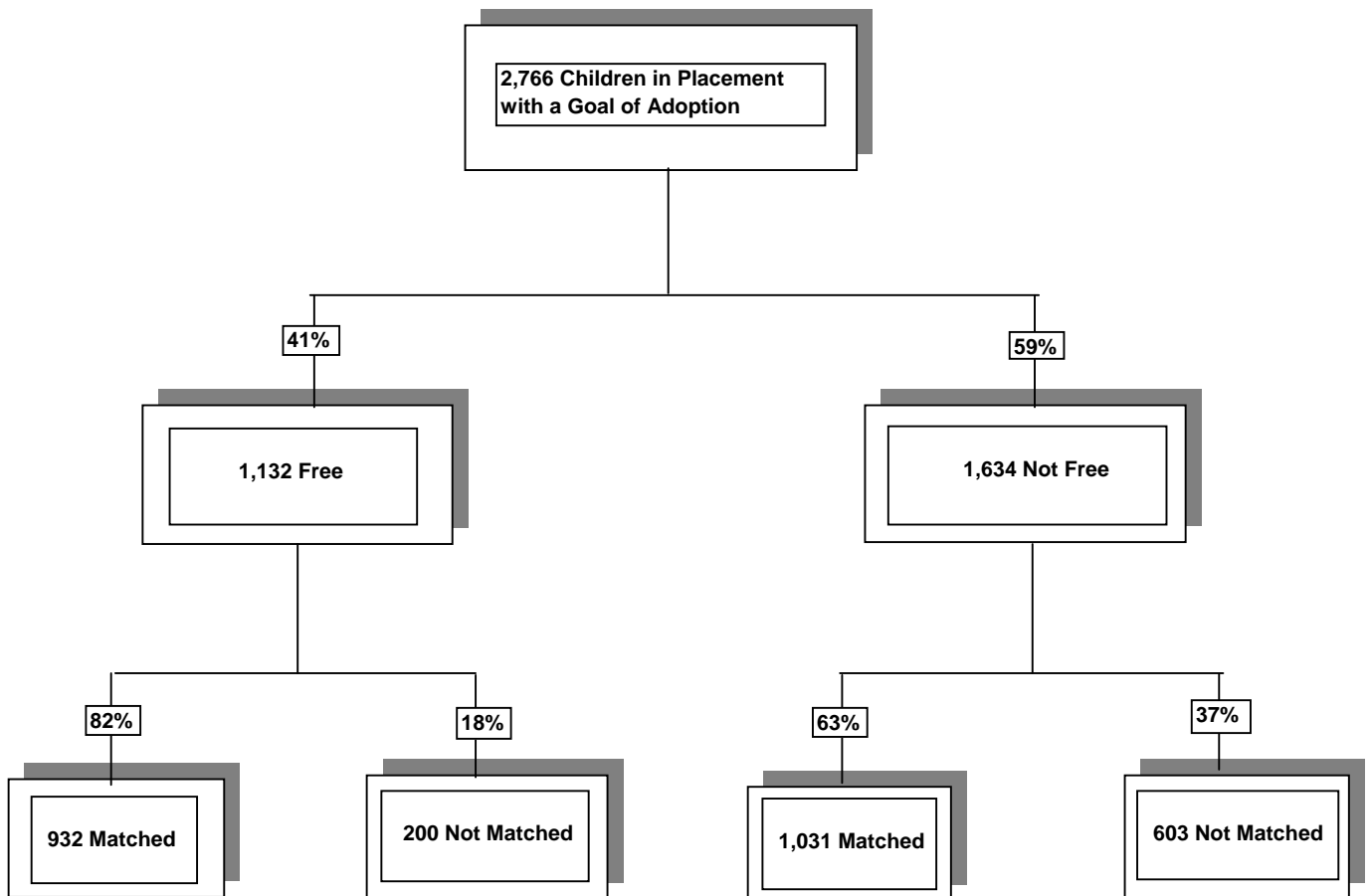
Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

Figure 12A. Age, Sex, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Continuous Time in Placement of Consumers with a Goal of Adoption (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)



Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

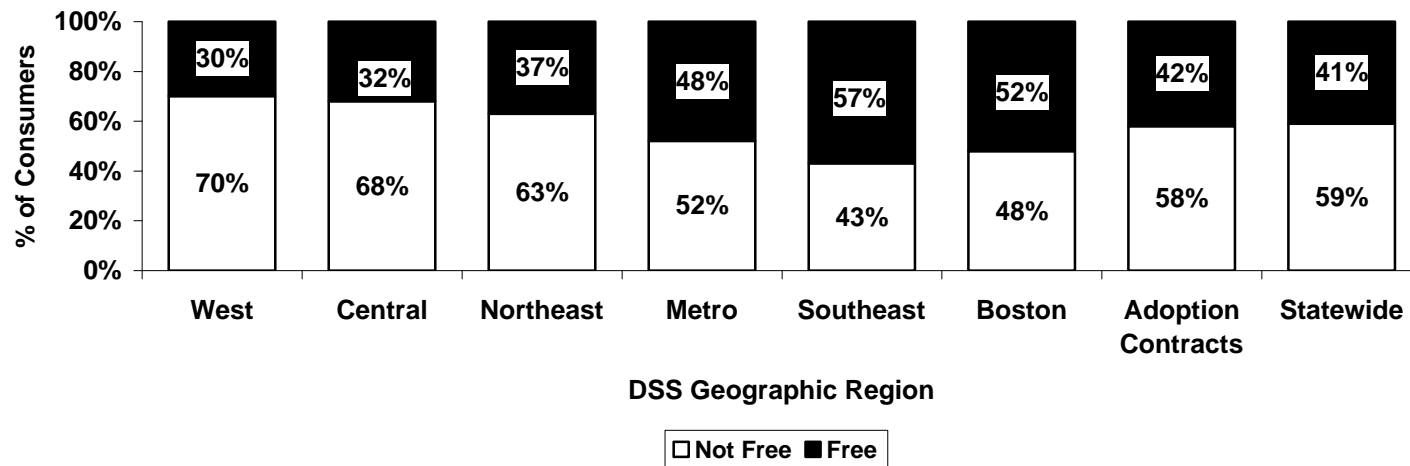
**Figure 12B. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption:
Legal Status and Match Status
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



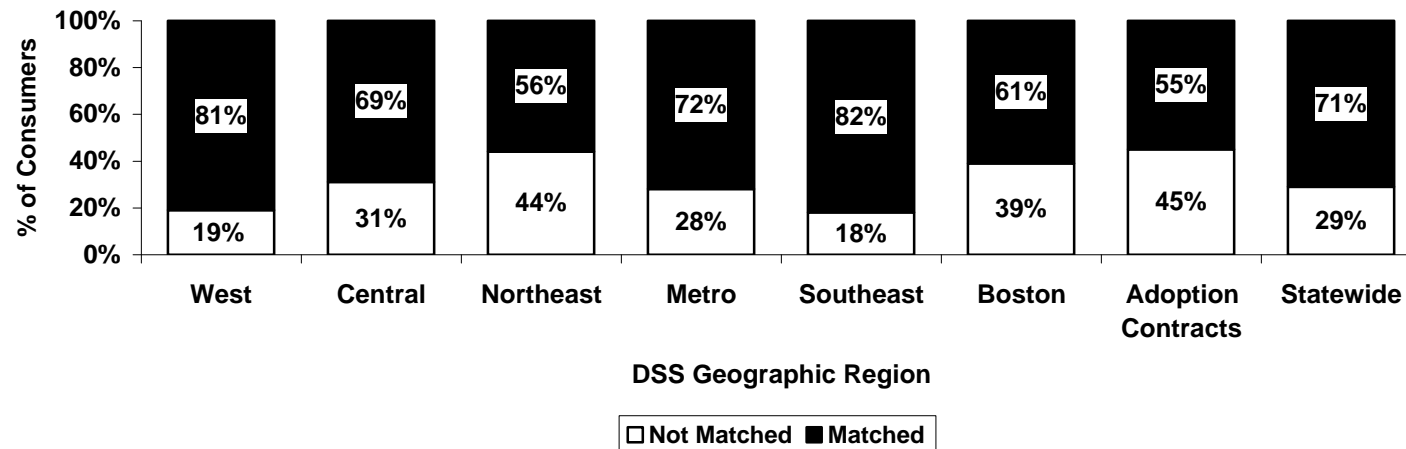
Note: Free = Legally Free for Adoption
Matched = Matched to a Permanent Family

Data Warehouse Refresh Date: October 6, 2004

**Figure 12C. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption and Legally Free
(FY'04, 4TH QUARTER)**



**Figure 12D. Consumers in Placement with a Goal of Adoption and
Matched to a Permanent Family
(FY'04, 4TH QUARTER)**



Case Intakes (Openings)

- During the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, there were 3,896 case openings (unduplicated) and 16,568 consumer openings (unduplicated). Case openings include both new cases and cases that previously had been closed by DSS. Consumers who entered the DSS system during the quarter include both members of new cases and new members of ongoing cases. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- Eighty-three percent of case intakes and 85% of consumer intakes were due to supported abuse/neglect reports. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- Voluntary requests for services accounted for 7% of case intakes and 6% of consumer intakes. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- CHINS referrals amounted to 8% of case intakes and 7% of consumer intakes. **(Tables 9A and 9B)**
- The proportion of case openings by type of intake is presented for each region in Fig. 13. Supported reports accounted for 80-89% of the total intakes for each region. The Boston Region had the largest proportion of CHINS referrals (11%). Voluntary requests were most significant (13%) in the Metro Region. **(Fig. 13, Table 9A)**
- The regional counts of CHINS referrals ranged from 34 (Metro) to 68 (Southeast) cases. Voluntary requests were highest in Metro. Case intakes via supported reports of child maltreatment were most numerous in the Southeast and West. **(Table 9A)**
- Regionally, case openings were lowest in the 1st Quarter of FY'2004. **(Fig. 14)**. This quarterly trend in case openings is driven by reports and investigations. Reports and investigations are lowest in the 1st quarter (summer vacation) then rise during the school year **(Figs. 20 and 21 on page 53)**.

TABLE 9A. CASE INTAKES DURING THE QUARTER BY TYPE OF INTIAL CONTACT AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS Geographic Region	Case Counts ⁽¹⁾										Total No.
	Supported CA/N Reports		CHINS Referrals		Voluntary Requests for Services		Other ⁽²⁾		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Western	642	89%	53	7%	18	3%	6	1%	---	---	719
Central	426	83%	43	8%	38	7%	8	2%	1	*	516
Northeast	557	82%	57	8%	52	8%	13	2%	2	*	681
Metro	495	80%	34	6%	77	13%	10	2%	---	---	616
Southeast	646	80%	68	8%	44	5%	48	6%	1	*	807
Boston	476	81%	66	11%	35	6%	9	2%	---	---	586
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾	3	100%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
Total	3,245	83%	321	8%	264	7%	94	2%	4	*	3,928

⁽¹⁾ Case openings include both new cases and cases that previously had been closed. The total summation for each DSS Region is a duplicated count because some families had more than one case opening in a quarter by more than one type of initial contact. The unduplicated count of total case openings is **3,896**.

⁽²⁾ Examples are a court order to provide services or a request on behalf of a consumer by another agency.

⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

TABLE 9B. CONSUMER INTAKES DURING THE QUARTER BY TYPE OF INTIAL CONTACT AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS Geographic Region	Consumer Counts ⁽¹⁾										Total No.
	Supported CA/N Reports		CHINS Referrals		Voluntary Requests for Services		Other ⁽²⁾		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Western	2,899	93%	148	5%	54	2%	23	1%	---	---	3,124
Central	1,871	86%	133	6%	142	6%	41	2%	1	*	2,188
Northeast	2,457	84%	236	8%	200	7%	34	1%	3	*	2,930
Metro	2,136	83%	114	4%	282	11%	30	1%	---	---	2,562
Southeast	2,889	83%	254	7%	176	5%	170	5%	2	*	3,491
Boston	2,025	84%	228	9%	118	5%	34	1%	---	---	2,405
Adoption Contracts ⁽³⁾	3	100%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
Total	14,280	85%	1,113	7%	972	6%	332	2%	6	*	16,703

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

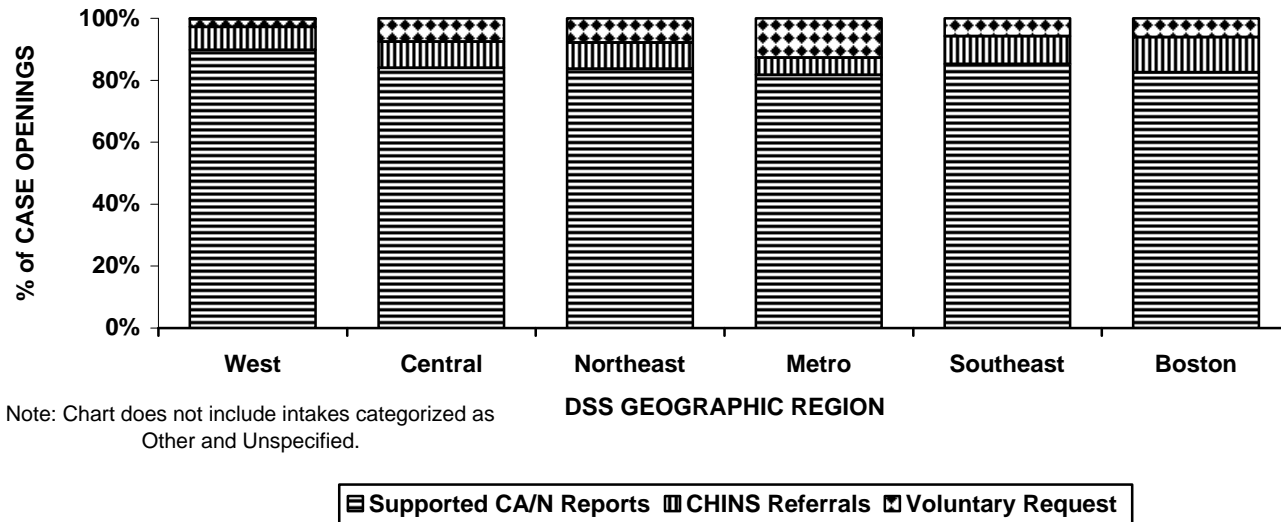
Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Counts of consumers with case openings or newly added to ongoing cases during the quarter. The total summation for each DSS Region is a duplicated count because some consumers had more than one type of initial contact during the quarter. The unduplicated count of total consumers with case openings or newly added to ongoing cases is **16,568**.

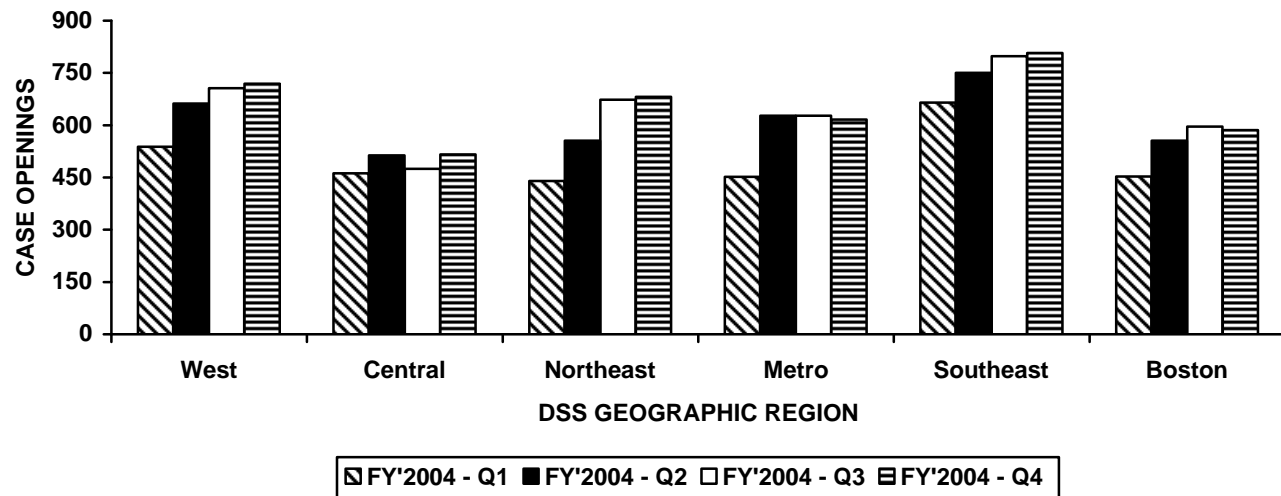
⁽²⁾ Examples are a court order to provide services or a request on behalf of a consumer by another agency.

⁽³⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

**FIGURE 13. REASON FOR CASE OPENINGS BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 14. INTAKES (CASE OPENINGS) BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



Consumers with Placements Starting or Ending during the Quarter

- During the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, 3,755 consumers started at least one placement and 1,718 consumers left at least one placement.¹ These counts of placement dynamics are not the same as consumer entries and exits to placement since they include consumers who changed placements during the quarter. (Tables 10 and 11)
- Of those consumers who started a placement setting during the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, 34% were first-time entrants and 66% were re-entrants.² The re-entrant total includes consumers going from a home to a placement location and consumers changing placements.³ Regionally, the proportion of first-time entrants ranged from 30% in Boston to 41% in the Northeast. (Table 10, Fig. 15)
- The largest influx to placement (first-time entrants and re-entrants combined) occurred in the Southeast (20% of statewide entrants) and West (19% of statewide entrants). (Table 10)
- Across the state, 68% of all entrants were placed in foster care, 27% were placed in residential care, and 6% were placed in non-referral locations.⁴ (Table 10)
- Statewide, first-time entrants to placement were more likely than re-entrants to be placed in foster care. Seventy-seven percent of first-time entrants and 63% of re-entrants were placed in foster homes. Conversely, 30% of re-entrants and 21% of first-time entrants were placed in residential care. (Table 10)
- Compared to other regions, Metro placed a much higher proportion of both first-time entrants (36%) and re-entrants (45%) into residential care. (Table 10, Fig. 16)
- Statewide, 737 re-entrants were placed in residential care and 1,561 re-entrants were placed in foster care. In contrast, 268 first-time entrants were placed in residential care and 978 first-time entrants were placed in foster care. (Table 10)

¹ For individuals with multiple entries and exits during the quarter, only the first entry and exit were selected.

² Re-entrants are consumers who had been in placement at some point in the past.

³ Changing providers.

⁴ Non-referral locations include hospitals and other state agencies.

- Statewide, 33% of the consumers leaving a placement setting were returned home. The proportion returned home ranged from 25% in Boston to 40% in Metro. **(Table 11)**
- Excluding consumers changing placements from the list of consumers with placements ending during the quarter, leaves 874 consumers who actually left placement. Sixty-four percent of the 874 consumers leaving placement were returned home. **(Table 11)**

TABLE 10. CONSUMERS STARTING PLACEMENTS DURING THE QUARTER BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS Geographic Region										
Entry Type	Placement Location Started	West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston	Adoption Contracts ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽²⁾	Total
First-Time Entrants:		227	158	249	206	284	131	---	17	1,272
	Foster Care	190	126	188	129	233	100	---	12	978
	Residential	32	27	57	74	47	27	---	4	268
	Non-Referral Location ⁽³⁾	5	5	4	3	4	4	---	1	26
Re-Entrants:		473	292	365	310	461	313	22	247	2,483
	Foster Care	358	191	210	157	288	193	18	146	1,561
	Residential	65	87	118	139	152	90	3	83	737
	Non-Referral Location ⁽³⁾	50	14	37	14	21	30	1	18	185
Total		700	450	614	516	745	444	22	264	3,755

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily consumers served through Central Office contracts.

⁽³⁾ Includes hospitals and other state agencies.

TABLE 11. CONSUMERS ENDING PLACEMENTS DURING THE QUARTER BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Reason Placement Ended	DSS Geographic Region						Adoption		Total
	West	Central	Northeast	Metro	Southeast	Boston	Contracts ⁽¹⁾	Other ⁽²⁾	
Child Returned Home	105	72	98	104	109	51	---	21	560
New or Other Service Referral for Placement	90	62	78	81	91	73	7	55	537
New Sub-Contract Referral for Placement	30	22	26	26	24	23	---	29	180
Placement in Non-Referral Location	19	24	16	17	21	11	---	19	127
Child on the Run	20	6	16	5	11	15	---	8	81
Consumer Adopted	13	13	5	5	10	12	4	2	64
Child 18 or Older	9	4	6	16	7	7	---	11	60
Guardianship	2	5	---	1	2	---	---	44	54
Custody to Other Individual	7	3	14	6	5	9	---	1	45
Consumer Moved	---	---	1	---	1	4	---	---	6
Custody to Other Agency	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	4
Total	297	211	262	261	281	205	11	190	1,718

⁽¹⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

⁽²⁾ Includes primarily consumers served through Central Office contracts.

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FIGURE 15. CONSUMERS WITH PLACEMENTS STARTING DURING THE QUARTER (FIRST-TIME ENTRANTS AND RE-ENTRANTS) (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

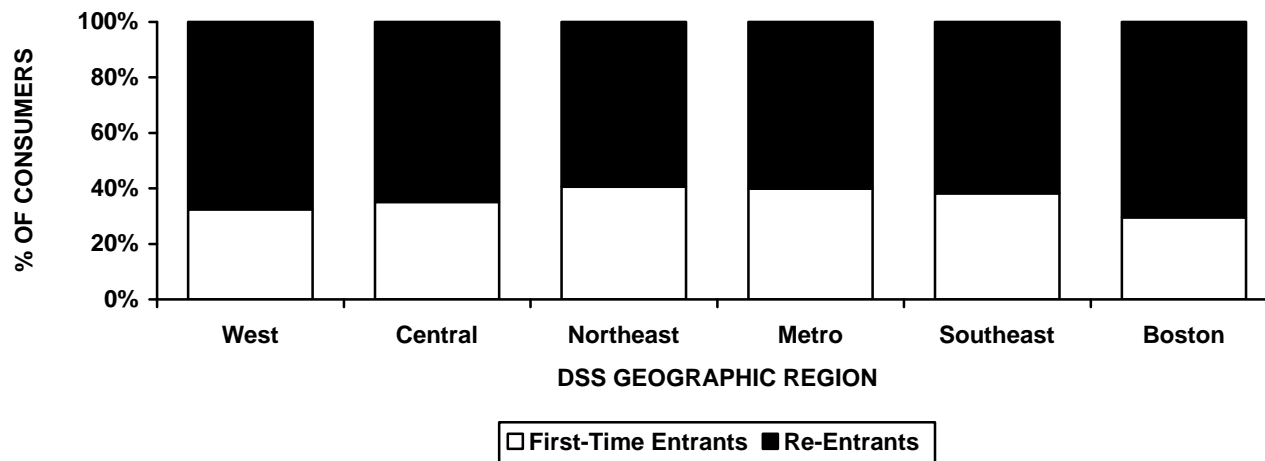
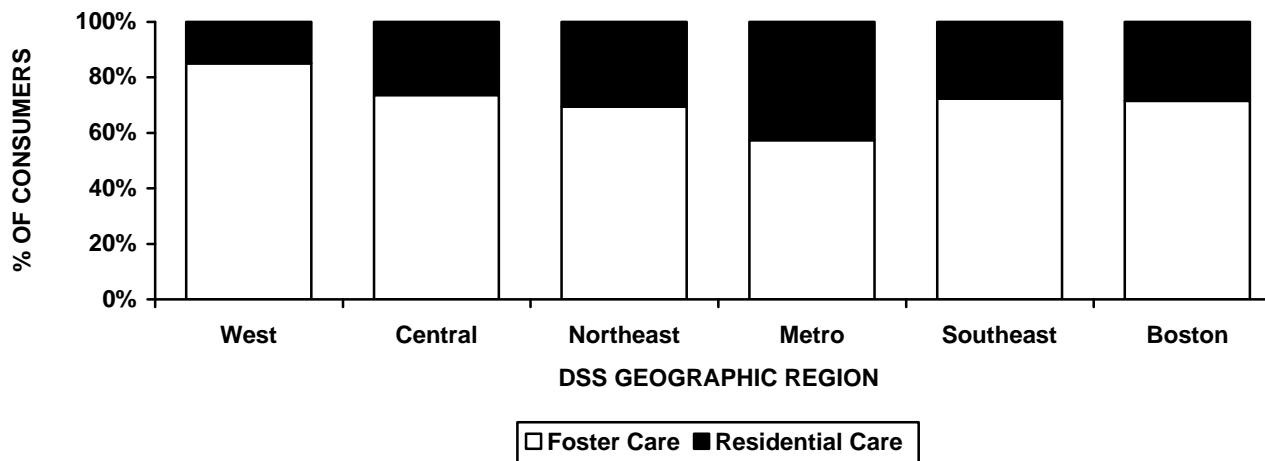
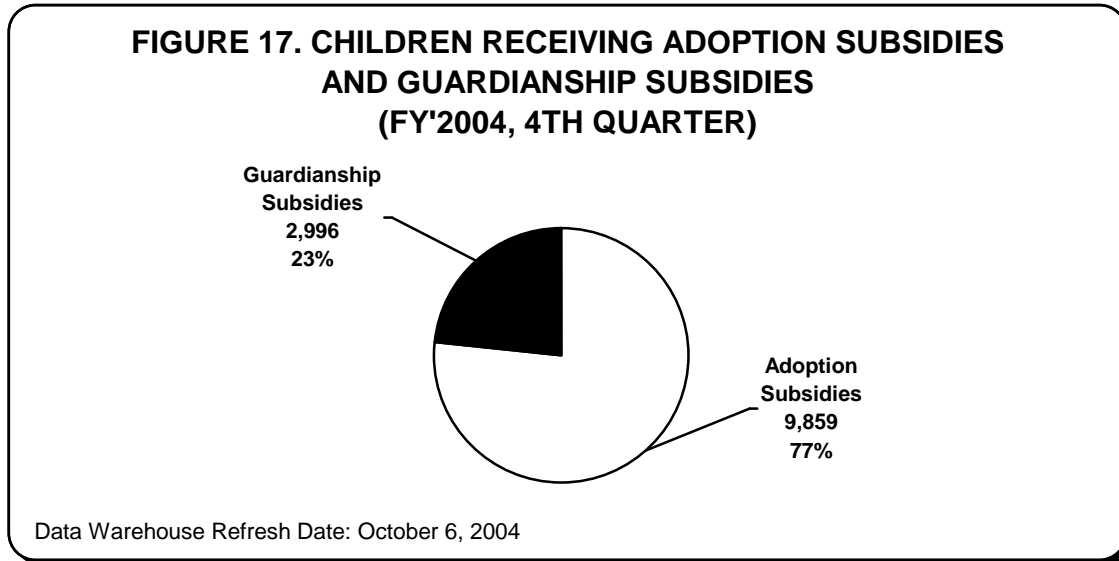


FIGURE 16. CONSUMERS WITH FOSTER AND RESIDENTIAL CARE PLACEMENTS STARTING DURING THE QUARTER (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)



Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies

- At the end of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, the total number of children receiving adoption subsidies was 9,859. Guardianship subsidies totaled 2,996. (Fig. 17)



From the 3rd Quarter of FY'2004 to the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, the number of adoption subsidies and guardianship subsidies both rose approximately 2%. The decline in subsidies from the 1st quarter to the 2nd quarter of FY'2003 is deceptive. It resulted from a mass cleanup of cases rather than a true reduction. (See table below)

Quarter	Subsidies			
	Adoption		Guardianship	
	No.	Quarterly Change	No.	Quarterly Change
FY'2001: 1 st	8,775	1%	2,647	-1%
2 nd	8,910	2%	2,700	2%
3 rd	9,004	1%	2,754	2%
4 th	9,113	1%	2,773	1%
FY'2002: 1 st	9,240	1%	2,789	1%
2 nd	9,361	1%	2,809	1%
3 rd	9,482	1%	2,863	2%
4 th	9,576	1%	2,944	3%
FY'2003 1 st	9,696	1%	2,921	-1%
2 nd	9,240	-5%	2,738	-6%
3 rd	9,328	1%	2,779	1%
4 th	9,470	2%	2,838	2%
FY'2004 1 st	9,605	1%	2,839	*
2 nd	9,616	*	2,866	1%
3 rd	9,712	1%	2,944	3%
4 th	9,859	2%	2,996	2%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Foster Homes¹

- At the end of the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, there were 4,889 foster homes. Included in this total are all kinship and child-specific (restricted) homes² as well as approved unrestricted homes.³ Approved unrestricted foster homes accounted for 48% (2,365) of the foster home total while restricted foster homes amounted to 52% (2,524). **(Table 12A)**
- From the 3rd Quarter of FY'1998 to 4th Quarter of FY'2004, restricted homes as a proportion of all foster homes gradually increased from 29% to 52% while unrestricted homes decreased from 71% to 48%. **(See graph on next page)**
- Statewide, 75% of foster parents in approved unrestricted homes were White⁴ and 59% were married. **(Tables 12A and 12C)**
- Statewide, 70% of the foster parents in restricted homes were White⁵ and 49% were married. **(Tables 12A and 12C)**
- Fourteen percent (705) of all foster homes were identified as Black (365 restricted and 340 unrestricted). **(Table 12A)**
- Sixteen percent (775) of all foster homes were identified as Hispanic/Latino (376 restricted and 399 unrestricted). **(Table 12B)**

¹ Foster homes provide formal, temporary out-of-home placement to children who are in the care/custody of DSS. Foster families may be related or unrelated to the child.

² Child-specific and kinship placements occur (1) when a court orders a child to be placed in a specific foster home; or (2) when a child requires placement and the child or his/her parent(s) has selected another home in which the child chooses to live; or (3) when DSS places a child with relatives or with a caregiver who has a relationship with the child.

³ Unrestricted placements are those where DSS places a child with a non-relative foster family. Unlike restricted homes (child specific and kinship), the unrestricted home is not limited to a particular child.

⁴ Statewide, the race of 7% of the unrestricted foster parents was unspecified.

⁵ Statewide, the race of 8% of restricted foster parents was unspecified.

Restricted and Unrestricted Foster Homes
3rd Quarter of FY'98 to 4th Quarter of FY'2004

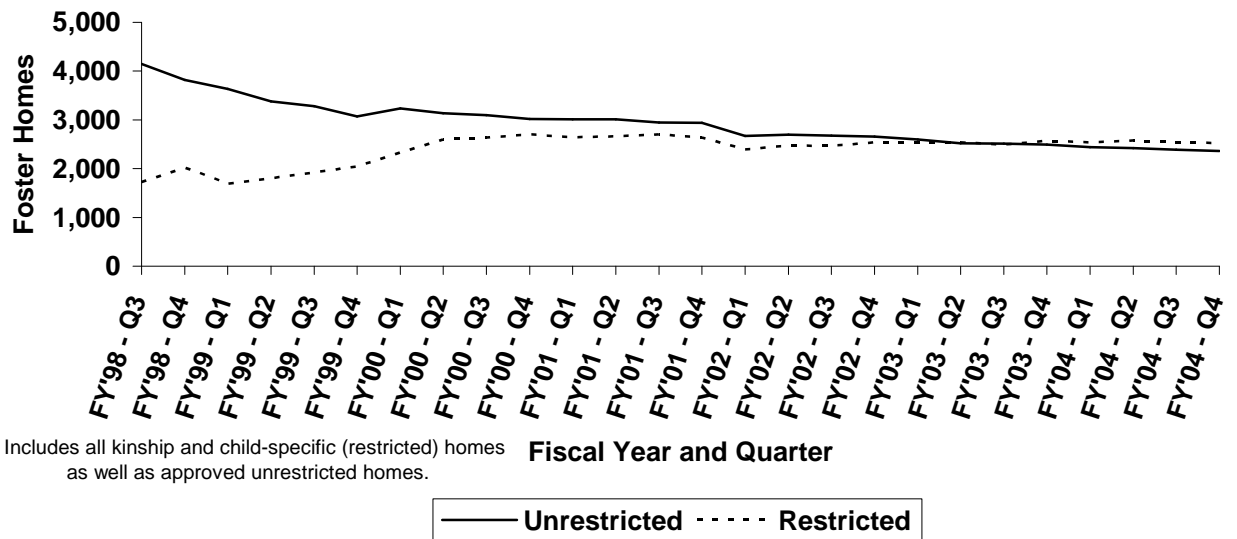


TABLE 12A. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY RACE AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)⁽¹⁾

	DSS Geographic Region															
Provider	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		Total	
Status	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Restricted:	505		401		392		305		614		253		54		2,524	
White	368	73%	303	76%	281	72%	237	78%	473	77%	91	36%	26	48%	1,779	70%
Black	66	13%	25	6%	22	6%	30	10%	72	12%	127	50%	23	43%	365	14%
Asian	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	6	1%	1	*	---	---	8	*
Native American	1	*	1	*	24	6%	4	1%	1	*	2	1%	---	---	33	1%
Other ⁽³⁾	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	1	*
Multi-Racial	7	1%	---	---	1	*	---	---	2	*	2	1%	---	---	12	*
Unspecified	33	7%	40	10%	57	15%	14	5%	35	6%	27	11%	3	6%	209	8%
Unrestricted:	516		340		339		282		494		239		155		2,365	
White	370	72%	301	89%	255	75%	240	85%	425	86%	65	27%	121	78%	1,777	75%
Black	75	15%	18	5%	14	4%	30	11%	36	7%	140	59%	27	17%	340	14%
Asian	---	---	1	*	9	3%	---	---	1	*	---	---	3	2%	14	1%
Native American	---	---	---	---	1	*	---	---	3	1%	---	---	---	---	4	*
Multi-Racial	48	9%	1	*	4	1%	1	*	3	1%	2	1%	1	1%	60	3%
Unspecified	23	4%	19	6%	56	17%	11	4%	26	5%	32	13%	3	2%	170	7%
Total	1,021		741		731		587		1,108		492		209		4,889	

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

⁽¹⁾ Includes all kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as approved unrestricted homes.⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.⁽³⁾ Includes Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islanders.TABLE 12B. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY HISPANIC ORIGIN AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)⁽¹⁾

DSS Geographic Region															Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		Total	
Provider	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston							
Status	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Restricted:	505		401		392		305		614		253		54		2,524			
Hispanic/Latino	136	27%	51	13%	80	20%	21	7%	42	7%	40	16%	6	11%	376	15%		
Not Hispanic/Latino	329	65%	299	75%	279	71%	252	83%	519	85%	196	77%	43	80%	1,917	76%		
Unspecified	40	8%	51	13%	33	8%	32	10%	53	9%	17	7%	5	9%	231	9%		
Unrestricted:	516		340		339		282		494		239		155		2,365			
Hispanic/Latino	134	26%	45	13%	100	29%	16	6%	45	9%	54	23%	5	3%	399	17%		
Not Hispanic/Latino	354	69%	292	86%	232	68%	263	93%	437	88%	181	76%	144	93%	1,903	80%		
Unspecified	28	5%	3	1%	7	2%	3	1%	12	2%	4	2%	6	4%	63	3%		
Total	1,021		741		731		587		1,108		492		209		4,889			

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Includes all kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as approved unrestricted homes.⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

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TABLE 12C. PROFILE OF FOSTER HOMES BY MARITAL STATUS AND DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)⁽¹⁾

Provider Status	DSS Geographic Region										Adoption Contracts ⁽²⁾		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Restricted:	505		401		392		305		614		253		54	
Married	238	47%	224	56%	197	50%	142	47%	318	52%	91	36%	27	50%
Single	121	24%	82	20%	108	28%	72	24%	134	22%	103	41%	11	20%
Divorced	59	12%	35	9%	38	10%	46	15%	64	10%	25	10%	9	17%
Widowed	17	3%	14	3%	17	4%	14	5%	38	6%	12	5%	3	6%
Separated	33	7%	13	3%	21	5%	8	3%	20	3%	16	6%	2	4%
Unspecified	37	7%	33	8%	11	3%	23	8%	40	7%	6	2%	2	4%
Unrestricted	516		340		339		282		494		239		155	
Married	288	56%	253	74%	188	55%	163	58%	322	65%	85	36%	92	59%
Single	98	19%	36	11%	84	25%	77	27%	66	13%	97	41%	50	32%
Divorced	80	16%	40	12%	34	10%	28	10%	58	12%	31	13%	11	7%
Separated	27	5%	6	2%	15	4%	6	2%	21	4%	15	6%	1	1%
Widowed	20	4%	5	1%	16	5%	8	3%	27	5%	11	5%	1	1%
Unspecified	3	1%	---	---	2	1%	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total	1,021		741		731		587		1,108		492		209	
														4,889

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

⁽¹⁾ Includes all kinship and child specific (restricted) homes as well as approved unrestricted homes.⁽²⁾ Licensed private adoption agencies that contract with DSS to provide case management services.

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Child Maltreatment Reports, Investigations, and DA Referrals

Reports

- Statewide, 18,492 reports were recorded during the 4th Quarter of FY'2004. Sixty-four percent of the reports were screened-in for investigation. Six percent of all reports were screened-in as emergencies. **(Table 13)**
- Among regions, reports of child maltreatment were most numerous in the West and Southeast. However, both of these DSS Regions were surpassed by the Judge Baker Children's Center (hotline) which recorded 3,998 reports. Regional screen-in rates ranged from 55% in both the West and Central to 70% in Boston. The screen-in rate at the Judge Baker Children's Center was 71%. **(Table 13 and Fig. 18)**
- The DSS Regions screened-in 1-3% of all reports as emergencies. In contrast, emergency screen-ins accounted for 20% of the reports received by the Judge Baker Children's Center Hotline. **(Table 13)**
- Statewide, there were only 46 more reports in the 4th Quarter than in the 3rd Quarter of FY'2004. Regional changes ranged from -27% (-689 reports) in the Northeast to 32% (+585 reports) in Metro. Typically, report counts drop during the summer quarter (Q1) then climb during the school year quarters (Q2-Q4). **(Fig. 20)**

Investigations

- The number of investigations completed during the 4th Quarter of FY'2004 was 10,474.¹ Fifty-seven percent of the investigations resulted in a supported finding. **(Table 14)**
- The Southeast conducted more investigations (2,066) than the other regions. Regional support rates went from a low of 52% in the Northeast to a high of 60% in the West. Judge Baker staff achieved the highest support rate: 71% of the completed investigations (all emergencies) were supported. **(Table 14, Fig. 19)**

¹ The number of investigations is lower than the number of screened-in reports. This occurs because an investigation may be associated to multiple reports on the same incident or by reports received on separate but closely occurring incidents.

- Boston had the highest screen-in rate (70%) and the third highest support rate (57%). A high screen-in rate does not necessarily mean a high support rate. The Western Region had the lowest screen-in rate (55%) and the highest support rate (60%). **(Table 14, Fig. 19)**
- Statewide, there was a 7% increase in investigations from the 3rd Quarter of FY'2004 to the 4th Quarter of FY'2004. Regional changes ranged from 2% in Boston to 11% in the Northeast. **(Fig. 21)**

TABLE 13. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

DSS Geographic Region	Screening Decision						Total	
	Screened Out		Screened-In					
			Non-Emergency		Emergency		No.	%
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
West	1,562	45%	1,864	53%	74	2%	3,500	19%
Central	921	45%	1,118	54%	23	1%	2,062	11%
Northeast	711	39%	1,094	60%	19	1%	1,824	10%
Metro	785	32%	1,619	67%	21	1%	2,425	13%
Southeast	1,081	37%	1,774	60%	79	3%	2,934	16%
Boston	525	30%	1,167	68%	32	2%	1,724	9%
Judge Baker Children's Center	1,154	29%	2,041	51%	803	20%	3,998	22%
Special Investigations	15	60%	10	40%	---	---	25	*
Total	6,754	37%	10,687	58%	1,051	6%	18,492	100%

TABLE 14. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS BY DSS REGION (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

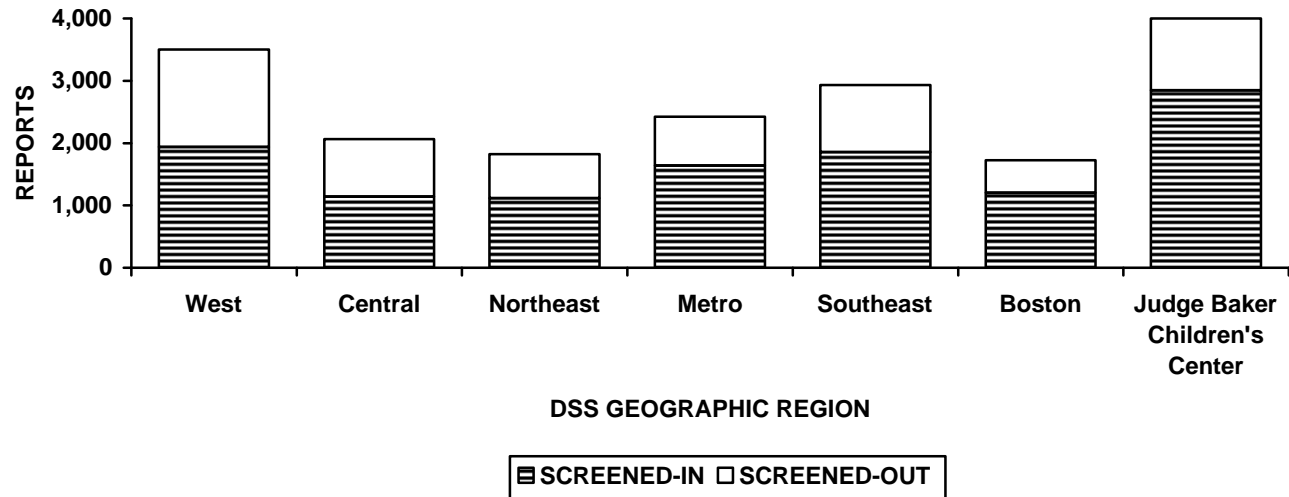
DSS Geographic Region	Investigation Decision				Total	
	Supported		Unsupported			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
West	1,076	60%	725	40%	1,801	17%
Central	725	59%	514	41%	1,239	12%
Northeast	963	52%	892	48%	1,855	18%
Metro	755	57%	563	43%	1,318	13%
Southeast	1,130	55%	936	45%	2,066	20%
Boston	746	57%	555	43%	1,301	12%
Judge Baker Children's Center	457	71%	183	29%	640	6%
Special Investigations	82	32%	172	68%	254	2%
Total	5,934	57%	4,540	43%	10,474	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

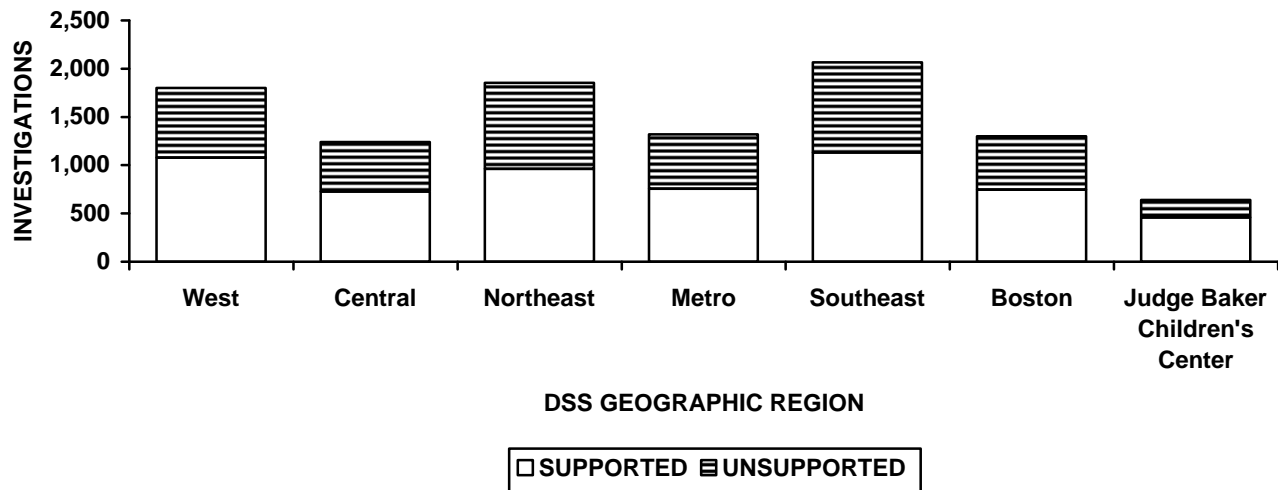
Note: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

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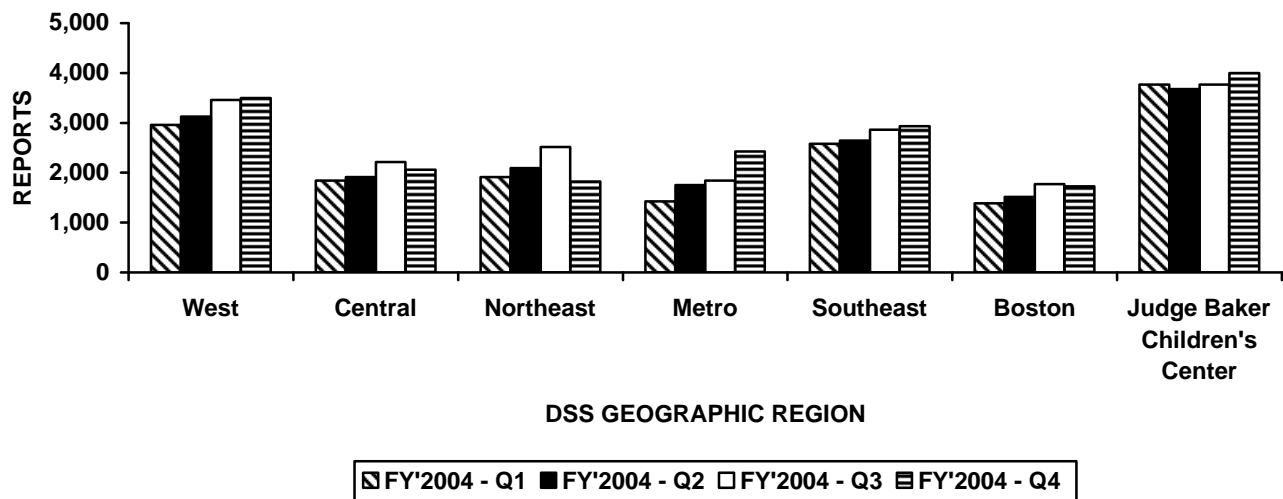
**FIGURE 18. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS
(SCREENING DECISION BY DSS REGION)
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



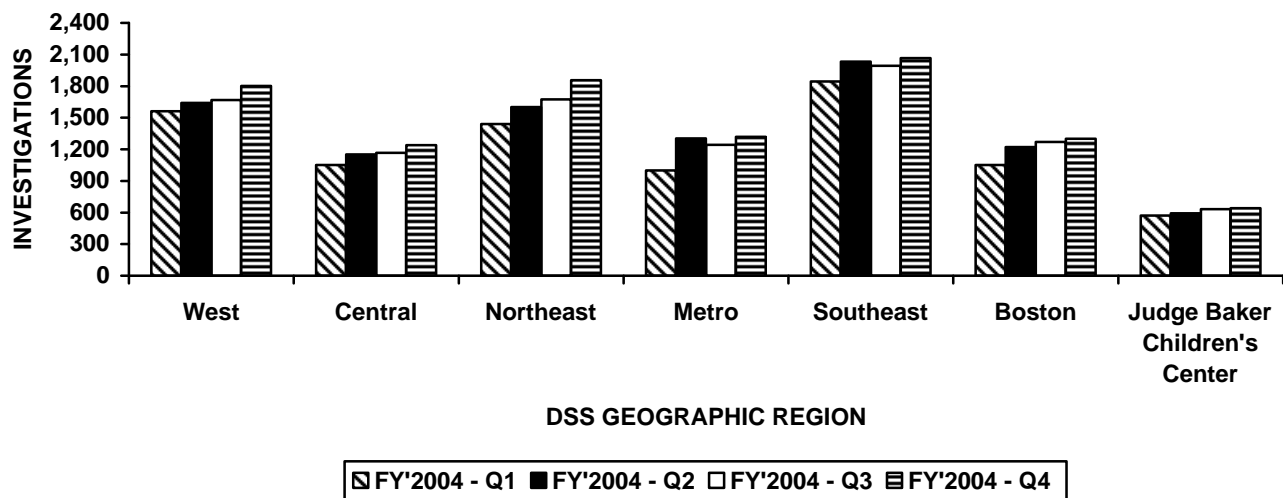
**FIGURE 19. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS
(INVESTIGATION DECISION BY DSS REGION)
(FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 20. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



**FIGURE 21. CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT INVESTIGATIONS BY DSS REGION
(FY'2004, 1ST QUARTER - FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)**



DA Referrals

- During the 4th Quarter of FY'2004, 1,227 cases were referred to the District Attorneys (DAs) (See table below). Forty-five percent of case referrals to the DAs were mandatory referrals¹ and 55% were discretionary referrals² (**Fig. 22**). There was a 10% increase in case referrals compared to the previous quarter.

Case Referrals*

Date	Mandatory		Discretionary		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.
FY'01, Q3	380	43%	504	57%	884
FY'01, Q4	435	48%	468	52%	903
FY'02, Q1	341	46%	403	54%	744
FY'02, Q2	421	45%	507	55%	928
FY'02, Q3	443	42%	614	58%	1,057
FY'02, Q4	494	45%	616	55%	1,110
FY'03, Q1	477	46%	555	54%	1,032
FY'03, Q2	488	48%	530	52%	1,018
FY'03, Q3	525	46%	611	54%	1,136
FY'03, Q4	599	49%	614	51%	1,213
FY'04, Q1	527	52%	489	48%	1,016
FY'04, Q2	489	45%	586	55%	1,075
FY'04, Q3	527	45%	655	55%	1,182
FY'04, Q4	558	45%	669	55%	1,227

(*) DA referrals approved during the Quarter.

- Sexual abuse accounted for 78% of the reasons for mandatory case referrals³ during the 4th Quarter of FY'2004 (**Fig. 23, Table 15** on following pages). Twenty-one percent of the case referral reasons were for serious physical abuse.
- Table 16 (on page 58) displays a breakdown of case referrals by type and county. In general, the number of referrals was directly related to the population size for the county. Referral counts were highest for the largest counties, Essex, Middlesex, Worcester, and Suffolk. Based on a comparison of county populations, Hampden County (encompasses city of Springfield) had higher numbers of referrals than expected and Norfolk County had lower numbers.

¹ Mandatory referrals to the District Attorneys (and local law enforcement authorities) are made following a DSS investigation that results in a supported report of severe child maltreatment (sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, or death). Mandatory referrals are also made when a maltreatment report is either screened-out or unsupported, on the basis that the alleged perpetrator did not meet the definition of caretaker, but the allegations match one of the aforementioned maltreatment categories.

² There are two categories of discretionary referrals: (1) DSS may immediately report cases of serious physical injury to the District Attorneys; or (2) DSS may refer other matters involving possible criminal conduct (including but not limited to cases of abuse or neglect) to the District Attorneys, regardless of whether the maltreatment report is supported or unsupported.

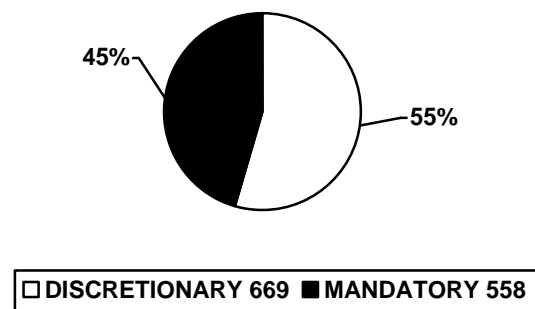
³ **A mandatory case referral may include more than one reason.**

Reasons for Mandatory Referrals

Date	Sexual Abuse		Physical Abuse		Death		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
FY'01, Q3	303	75%	91	23%	8	2%	402
FY'01, Q4	346	77%	102	23%	3	1%	451
FY'02, Q1	295	83%	57	16%	5	1%	357
FY'02, Q2	329	75%	107	24%	5	1%	441
FY'02, Q3	361	78%	90	20%	9	2%	460
FY'02, Q4	398	78%	111	22%	3	1%	512
FY'03, Q1	409	82%	84	17%	8	2%	501
FY'03, Q2	412	82%	88	18%	--	--	500
FY'03, Q3	412	76%	123	23%	6	1%	541
FY'03, Q4	455	73%	166	27%	5	1%	626
FY'04, Q1	459	83%	87	16%	9	2%	555
FY'04, Q2	385	76%	114	23%	5	1%	504
FY'04, Q3	414	76%	127	23%	6	1%	547
FY'04, Q4	455	78%	122	21%	6	1%	583

DA REFERRALS (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

FIGURE 22. TYPE OF CASE REFERRAL
(Case Count*)



* A case referral may include more than one reason.

FIGURE 23. REASON FOR MANDATORY REFERRALS
(Reason Count*)

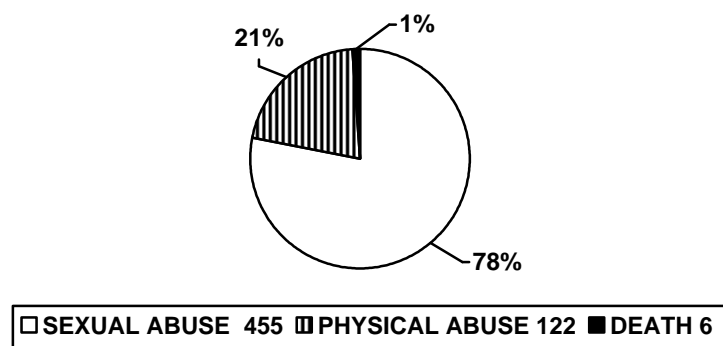


TABLE 15. REASONS FOR MANDATORY CASE REFERRALS TO DISTRICT ATTORNEYS (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

Nature of Abuse	Reasons	
	No.	%
Sexual Abuse:	455	78%
Sexual Assault	422	
Sexual Exploitation	33	
Serious Physical Abuse:	122	21%
Death:	6	1%
Total Reasons for Mandatory Referrals	583	100%

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TABLE 16. CASE REFERRALS BY TYPE AND COUNTY⁽¹⁾ (FY'2004, 4TH QUARTER)

County ⁽²⁾	Case Referrals				Total No.
	Discretionary		Mandatory		
	No.	%	No.	%	
Essex	178	51%	173	49%	351
Middlesex	85	57%	64	43%	149
Worcester	91	62%	56	38%	147
Hampden	58	44%	75	56%	133
Suffolk	84	67%	41	33%	125
Bristol	47	45%	58	55%	105
Plymouth	48	74%	17	26%	65
Berkshire	21	40%	32	60%	53
Norfolk	14	36%	25	64%	39
Barnstable	16	67%	8	33%	24
Hampshire	13	76%	4	24%	17
Franklin	8	62%	5	38%	13
Dukes	---	---	---	---	---
OUT OF STATE	6	100%	---	---	6
Total	669		558		1,227

⁽¹⁾ DA referrals approved during the Quarter.

⁽²⁾ County where the child resides.

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